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COINS OF THE ROMANS

RELATING TO

BRITAIN.

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"Quis est quem non moveat tot clarissimis monumentis testata consignataque antiquitas."—Cicero.

"Factum abiit—monumenta manent."—Ovid.

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DEBRITANNIA

2
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AR
HADRIANVS AVGCOS III
FOVENTI AVG BRITANNIAE
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6
PONTMAXTRPOTCOS III
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BRITANNIA
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COINS OF THE ROMANS

RELATING TO

BRITAIN

DESCRIBED AND ILLUSTRATED

BY

JOHN YONGE AKERMAN,

FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON,

CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES OF EDINBURGH AND NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE,

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TO

JOHN LEE, ESQUIRE,

OF HARTWELL HALL, IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM,

LL.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S.,

LATE PRESIDENT OF THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF LONDON.

My dear Sir,

Some years since you had the kindness to consent to my dedicating to you a small and imperfect work, bearing the same title as the present, as an acknowledgment of your readiness on all occasions to assist those who were engaged

in promoting a more general taste for numismatic studies in this country.

Suffer me now to present to you a volume on the same subject, in an improved form and with many additions, and to express a hope that the favour with which its predecessor was regarded, will be extended to that which now claims your indulgence.

I am, my dear Sir,

With much gratitude and respect,

Your faithful and obliged,

JOHN YONGE AKERMAN.

LEWISHAM,
October 1, 1843.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

The object of this little work, is to bring under one view the coins of the Romans which relate to the province of Britain. It is hoped that such an attempt will not only find favour with the antiquary and the numismatist, but will also interest all who are curious in the early history of our island; some of the principal events in which, during a long period of the Roman occupation, are recorded on the coins of the conquerors.

The remark of Gibbon, that "diligence and accuracy are the only merits which a historical writer may ascribe to himself," is still more applicable to compilations of this description: there is little room for fancy or ornament; but the authentic information which they supply, affords ample amends for any deficiency of

style, and supplies the place of elaborate embellishment.

I must add, that the notes for this tract were made during brief intervals of leisure, and that I have taken great pains to exclude such coins as are of questionable authenticity. To those who may complain of its brevity, I have only to remark, that I might have made it much larger if I had dealt in conjecture; but, as I preferred matter of fact to wild speculation, and rejected the fanciful relations of the over-zealous for the indisputable evidence of antiquity, I could not have increased its size without travelling beyond the limits I had prescribed to myself.

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INTRODUCTION.

In the following pages I have endeavoured to describe a series of ancient coins, which, though not comprising the finest specimens of numismatic art, must, to an Englishman, be of all others the most interesting. The plates have been engraved, with the most strict attention to accuracy, from drawings made expressly for this work from the well-preserved originals in the British Museum, from the national collection at Paris and Vienna, and various private cabinets in this country. Some of these coins have been figured in Camden, Speed, and other writers on the early history of Britain; but all so unlike the originals as to cause much embarrassment to the inexperienced collector. Even Pinkerton, ever ready to pounce upon the errors of others, contented himself with

copying ill-engraved and unauthenticated representations. The plates, therefore, which accompany this volume claim the attention of the numismatist on the score of their fidelity.

I have confined myself to a description of those coins only which have direct allusion to Britain. It is probable that others were struck by the Romans to commemorate events in this country; but, in order to save much repetition, I have, with few exceptions, given descriptions of those only which bear the word BRITANNIA either at length, or in a contracted form, and such as may be considered to have been minted in this country.

The coins of the Romans have descended to us in prodigious numbers. In every country once included in their vast empire, numerous hoards in the three metals, have, from time to time, been brought to light. In England, France, Italy, Germany, and the more remote provinces of the East, innumerable discoveries during the last two centuries have enriched the cabinets of the curious, and proved a source of information and delight to the historian, the antiquary, and the artist.

With a foresight which has seldom been evinced

by modern nations, the Romans celebrated those deeds which have been the admiration of succeeding ages, in a manner peculiarly their own. Time and accident might destroy temples and statues, upon which the genius and skill of the architect and the sculptor had been lavished, but their coins were calculated to perpetuate their fame to the remotest times. The triumphal arch, defaced and overthrown, exhibits but disjointed portions of its once high-sounding inscription; but numerous coins remain uninjured, bearing the sententious legends—IVDAEA CAPTA—VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE—AEGYPTO CAPTA—and a multitude of others of almost equal interest. "If all our historians were lost to us," says Gibbon, "medals and inscriptions would alone record the travels of Hadrian." The coins of the Romans were, in fact, their gazettes, which were published in the most distant provinces; and they are at this day discovered in remote regions where our own records have, in all probability, never reached. Did they obtain a victory or reduce a province, coins were issued in vast numbers, upon which the vanquished were depicted with their characteristic arms and costume. Did the emperor visit the province as pacificator, coins appeared, upon which he was represented in a civic habit,

raising up the prostrate female who represents the country which had won the imperial favour. The remission of taxes, the raising of temples to their deities, and public buildings for the people, the forming of public ways, the celebration of games and sacrifices, and the records of traditions when Rome herself was young, are all found in infinite variety on the coins of that once mighty empire.

Such were the types which the Romans impressed upon their coins—"the common drudge of retail traffic." Of their execution as works of art, enough has been already said by various writers, and we know that they have been the admiration of the most eminent sculptors of modern times, who have freely confessed that though in mechanical finish the coins of our days surpass those of the ancients, yet in originality of design, and boldness and vigour of style and execution, the commonest coins of Greece and Rome are far superior.

We have had interesting evidence in our own times of the imperishable nature of numismatic monuments. On the restoration of the Bourbons, the exposure of a picture or bust of the emperor Napoleon was severely punished, while the

coins with his name and effigy were circulating throughout France! Kings may be deposed, but their image and superscription remain, and defy the malice of the destroyer. The senate could order the destruction of Caligula's statues and busts, but they had no power to eradicate his coinage; and their attempts to do so were utterly abortive, as the cabinets of our collectors attest.

My observations are, for the most part, confined to the coins themselves. A history of Roman Britain could not have been comprised within the limits of a work like the present; indeed, the first records of most countries present a finer field for the imagination of the poet than the sober relation of the historian: yet, replete with fable and romance as is the early history of Britain, it is some consolation to the antiquary to find a few authentic relics which bear upon the early times of our ancestors. If we could receive the glowing description of Claudian as the real history of Roman conquest, we might readily believe that Britain was happy while under a foreign yoke; but we know, on the contrary, that the embrace of the Roman "mother," as she is falsely styled by the poet, was that of a tigress. From the first landing of

Julius Cæsar to the final abandonment of the island by the Romans, the history of Britain presents, with few intervals, one long scene of cruelty and extortion. Barbarian retaliation frequently followed civilized aggression, and war and slaughter were often preferred by the wretched islanders to the grinding taxation of their oppressors. Of the manner in which the taxes of the Romans were laid upon conquered countries, we have many relations: even their own poet, Juvenal, has lashed them for the cruel exactions practised upon those states which had the misfortune to become tributary to them.* Wretched indeed must have been the condition of the Britons when the Romans quitted for ever their island province. Debased by long servitude and tainted by the vices of

* The satirist says, that they fleeced conquered princes who depended upon them, devouring them "even to the marrow of their bones:"—

"Ossa vides Regum vacuis exhausta medullis:" SAT. VIII.—

and that their exactions in time of peace were more rigorous than in war. Such perfect masters were they of the art of enslaving, that tributary kings were often made the instruments of oppression. Thus Tacitus, in his life of Agricola, says that Cogidunus, a British prince, had several cities bestowed upon him for his fidelity to the Romans: he further adds, that it was the practice of that people to make even kings the instruments of servitude.

their civilized oppressors, they were an easy prey to the barbarian hordes that threatened to overwhelm them; and of the dark period which succeeded we have but faint records, unrelieved by inscriptions or medallic evidence.

Nec stetit Oceano, remisque ingressa profundum,
Vincendos alio quæsivit in orbe Britannos.
Hæc est in gremium victos quæ sola recepit,
Humanumque genus communi nomine fovit;
Matris, non dominæ ritu, civesque vocavit
Quos domuit nexuque pio longinqua revinxit.

CLAUDIAN, PANEG. 3. *in Stiliconem.*

COINS OF THE ROMANS RELATING TO BRITAIN.

We have the direct testimony of Tacitus that Julius Cæsar obtained no portion of Britain, but rather transmitted to posterity some account of it.* We must not, therefore, look for any numismatic records of the first descent of the Romans upon this island.

The same author further informs us that the Romans, fully occupied by their own intestine wars, left Britain unmolested; and that, on the re-establishment of peace, Augustus, from political motives, made no attempt upon the island.

* "Igitur primus omnium Romanorum D. Julius cum exercitu Britanniam ingressus, quamquam prospera pugna terruerit incolas, ac litore potitus sit, potest videri ostendisse posteris non tradidisse."—Vita Agricolæ, c. 13. This is corroborated by Suetonius, in Claud. c. 17, "neque tentatam ulli post D. Julium."

This was considered by Tiberius as a precept of his predecessor; and Caligula was perhaps thwarted in his designs against Britain (if he ever seriously entertained any) by his ill success against the Germans.* It was left for Claudius

* The story of his pretended preparation for the invasion of Britain is well known. Having arrived at the sea-side, he commanded his soldiers to gather up the shells which were strewed on the beach; which he called the spoils of the ocean due to the Capitol and the Palatium. "Spolia Oceani Capitolio Palatioque debita" (Suetonius, in Calig. c. 46). The same writer (c. 44) informs us that he had previously received the submission of Adminius, the son of Cunobelinus, who had been driven into exile by his father. This prince brought with him a small body of troops, who, with their leader, were paraded before the senate as though the whole island had submitted to the Roman arms. A correspondent of the "Numismatic Journal" thus notices the absence of the S. C. on the coins of Caligula with the legend ADLOCVT. COH.: "It must have been observed by numismatists that this type wants the S. C. (*senatus consulto*). The deficiency, if it occurred on any other coin than one of this imperial madman, would occasion more surprise. But he who is said to have intended to make his horse consul, and who put numbers of senators to death merely from infuriate malice, may well be supposed to have usurped their right in this instance, by commanding the allocution type of his first brass to be struck independently of their decree. He may have been piqued at their recommending him to accept of an ovation only, instead of the triumph which he demanded for his military exploits on the shores of the German ocean, where, after a pompous harangue, he ordered the soldiers to fill their helmets with cockle-shells as the spoils of conquest. This usurpation of the senate's right and privilege

to renew the struggle, which terminated in the subjugation of a considerable portion of the island. The first Roman coin having allusion to Britain is, therefore, of that emperor.

CLAUDIUS.

[A.D. 41 to A.D. 54.]

In the reign of this emperor, a fugitive British lord, having fled to the Roman court, entertained him with an account of the island, and assured him that its complete subjugation might be easily effected. Claudius, it appears, lent a ready ear to the traitor; and when the ambassadors entreated that he might be given up to them, treated their request with disdain, and kept the fugitive in his favour. This treatment was, of course, resented. Excuses were not wanting for a quarrel with the Britons; and it was now discovered that their tribute had not been regularly paid. Mutual recrimination followed; and finally Plautius, the Roman general, was despatched

may have contributed to induce them, after the tyrant's assassination, to call in and melt his money: from which fact, the coins of Caligula are comparatively scarce."—Numismatic Journal, vol. i. p. 134.

with an army into Britain, while Claudius prepared to follow him. After a succession of skirmishes, in which the Romans, though doubtless often great sufferers, were generally the victors, the Britons sustained a signal defeat.

Claudius, about this time, landed in person: Suetonius says it was the only expedition he undertook. Affecting to despise the triumphal ornaments decreed to him by the senate, he determined to earn the honour of an actual triumph. He sailed from Ostia, but was thrice compelled by stress of weather to put back. Finding the elements against him, he proceeded by land from Massilia (Marseilles) to Gessoriacum (Boulogne), whence he took shipping; and soon after his arrival the greater part of the island submitted to him.* It is said that the emperor shewed great clemency to the vanquished Britons, who paid him divine honours.

Plautius, in reward for his services, obtained

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* Dion Cassius, lib. xl. Suetonius in Claud. c. 17. The accounts of these writers are somewhat conflicting; and Suetonius seems to contradict himself, when in one place he says "sine ullo prælio," &c. (in Claud. c. 17), and in another "triceis cum hoste conflixit" (in Vesp. c. 4). It can hardly be supposed that a large portion of Britain, together with the Isle of Wight, were brought under subjection without some important engagements.

the government of Britain; and, after the departure of the emperor, carried on the war against the provinces not yet tributary to the Romans.

It is somewhat remarkable that although the coinage of brass was under the control of the senate,* the gold and silver coins only of this emperor commemorate his victories in Britain. Examples in gold are not uncommon, but his silver coins are scarce. The following type occurs in both metals:—

Obverse. TI. CLAVD. CAESAR AVG.' P. M. TR. P. VI. IMP. XI. *Tiberius Claudius Caesar Augustus, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitiâ Potestate sextum, Imperator undecimum.* The laureated† head of Claudius to the right, with a dull heavy countenance and the hair growing down the back of the neck.‡

Reverse. DE BRITANN. (or BRITAN. or BRITANNIS), on the front of a triumphal arch, surmounted by an equestrian statue between two trophies.

---

* Denoted by the S.C. (*senatus consulto*) which almost invariably appears on it. This remark is only necessary for those who have no practical knowledge of Roman coins. When the S.C. is found on gold or silver it must be otherwise understood, and may be considered as referring to a decree of the senate.

† Suetonius says that Tiberius, when the sky was turbid, always wore a laurel crown, because it was supposed that the leaf of the laurel was never touched by lightning. In Tib. c. 69.

‡ This was peculiar to the family, according to Suetonius, in Tib. c. 68; and it may be remarked in the portraits on the coins of several of the successors of Claudius.

There is no doubt that the coins bearing this type were minted to commemorate the triumph decreed by the senate to Claudius, and celebrated in the year A.D. 44. The date of the TRIB. POT. answers to the year 46; by which time, perhaps, the arch noticed by Dion Cassius, was completed.*

There was an issue of other coins with this type, but with an alteration in the TRIB. POT.: namely, TRP VIIII. IMP. XVI.; and these were probably minted to record the enlargement of the pomœrium or boundaries of Rome, the date agreeing with an inscription given by Gruter.

TI. CLAVDIVS DRVSI. F. CAISAR
AVG. GERMANICVS PONT. MAX. TRIB. POT. VIIII.
IMP. XVI. COS. IIII. CENSOR P. P.
AVCTIS POPVLI ROMANI FINIBVS
POMERIVM AMPLIAVIT TERMINAVITQ.

It is remarkable that though Claudius repeats the title IMP*erator* so often on his coins, he never uses it as a *prænomen*, nor is it thus placed on any known inscription.†

---

* Ἀψίδα τροπαιοφόρον. Dion Cass. lib. xl.

† When the title IMP*erator precedes* the name on Roman coins, it implies supreme power; but when it *follows* the name, it is simply a military title. It is found on the coins of Sylla and of Pompey in the latter sense; being given to them as victorious generals. Suetonius, in Claud. c. 12, says "prænomine Imperatoris abstinuit;" a fact which is confirmed by these and other coins of Claudius; though on some colonial examples it is used as a *prænomen* obviously in error.

Eckhel* remarks on the mode of spelling the word BRITANNIA on these coins, namely, with one T, and that the same orthography is observable on those of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius. It is thus spelled in the well known line of Virgil,

"Et penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos."†

but on the coins of Severus and his sons we find the T doubled. It was therefore only in accordance with the orthography of his period that Eustathius, remarking on the verse of Dionysius Periegetes‡ ἔνθα Βρεττανοὶ, observes that the poet had left out one τ for the sake of the metre.

The collection of the British Museum contains two small silver medallions of Claudius, one of which was formerly in the Museum Hedervarium. They are both of the same type, though not from the same die; and one of them, having shifted under the blows of the hammer, is imperfectly struck. The fine collection to which this piece formerly belonged was, a short time since, sold by private contract; and the two medallions were purchased of Mr. Millingen for the collection of the British Museum. They are the only two known, and are a most valuable addition to the series under notice.

* Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vi. p. 240. † Ecl. i. 67. ‡ v. 284.

Obverse. TI. CLAVD. CAESAR AVG. GERM. P. M. TR. P. *Tiberius Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitia Potestate.* The laureated head of the emperor to the left.

Reverse. DE BRITANNIS. The emperor in a quadriga; his right hand resting on its edge; his left holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle.

Vaillant considers the elegant gold quinarius of Claudius, with the figure of Victory resting her foot on a globe and inscribing a buckler, as commemorative of events in Britain; and remarks on the type,—"illa pedem globo imponit, quasi novum orbem sub ditione Romana redegerit: nam Britannia toto orbe divisa, tanquam alter Romanis videbatur."* But the absence of a date renders it very doubtful.

It may be proper to add that the coin with the type of a female figure holding a rudder and a vase, given by Pinkerton,† is not authenticated. It is doubtless a modern fabrication. The gold coin, cited by Rasche,‡ from Mediobarba, and other writers, is of very questionable authenticity.

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* Num. Imp. Rom. tom. ii. p. 57. edit. 1743.

† Essay on Medals, vol. i.

‡ Lexicon, tom. i. p. 1597.

BRITANNICUS.

[Born A.D. 42.—Poisoned A.D. 55.]

This prince, the son of Claudius by Messalina, was born in the second consulship of his father. His original name was Germanicus, that of *Britannicus* having been given him by the senate, in consequence of the victories obtained by the generals of Claudius in Britain;* and by this he is better known in history. By the intrigues of his step-mother, Agrippina, he was removed from the succession to the empire to make way for her son Nero, and was destroyed during the festivities of the Saturnalia by the court poisoner, Locusta.†

The only coin of Roman fabric with the effigy of Britannicus, is the one described below. It is of the large brass size, and is noticed by Eckhel,‡ as having been first brought to light at Rome in the year 1773.

Obverse. TI. CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG. F. BRITANNICVS. *Tiberius Claudius Cæsar Augusti Filii,*

* Dion Cass. lib. lx. † Tacit. Ann. lib. xiii. c. 16.
‡ Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vi. p. 254.

Britannicus. Bare head of Britannicus to the right.

Reverse. S. C. *Senatus Consulto.* Mars marching to the right with spear and shield.

Alabanda, Thessalonica, Nicomedia, Ilium, and other Greek cities, struck coins in honour of this unfortunate prince;* but as they belong to a distinct series, they are not here described.† I cannot, however, pass over two coins in the cabinet of Mr. Thomas, who justly holds them in high estimation. The first is of gold.

I.

Obverse. No legend. The laureated head of Claudius to the right.

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* See Pellerin, Melanges, tom. ii. p. 28. Id. Rec. tom. ii. Sestini, Lettere iv. p. 26. Seguin, Selecta Num. and Eckhel, Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vi. p. 254.

† The coins of Britannicus, though of inferior execution, are especially interesting from the circumstance of his busts being of great rarity, Nero having ordered all representations of this ill-fated youth to be destroyed. A statue of Britannicus was found some years since near Tivoli, with the attributes of Bacchus. We are told by Suetonius, that Titus was very nearly taken off at the banquet at which Britannicus was destroyed, having partaken of some of the poison; and that Titus, when he came to the empire, erected a statue of gold to his memory, and dedicated an equestrian statue of ivory which was paraded in the Circensian procession in the days of the historian (in Tito, c. 2).

Reverse. Bare head of Britannicus to the right: behind it, the letters BA. KO. in monogram. These letters are the abbreviation of ΒΑσιλεος ΚΟτυος [money] *of King Cotys.* Beneath the head, the Greek numeral letters BMT, which signify 342 of the era of the kingdom of the Bosphorus, answering to the year of Rome 798, or A.D. 46, and thus agreeing with the gold coin of Claudius.

The other coin is of copper.

II.

Obverse. The head of Cotys, king of the Bosphorus, encircled by the regal diadem or fillet, and the hair reaching to the shoulders. Behind, the monogram, composed of the letters BA. KO. as in the preceding coin.

Reverse. ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΒΡΕΤΑΝΝΙΚΟΣ. *Cæsaris Britannici.* Bare head of Britannicus to the right.

Both these coins are of great rarity. The first is, perhaps, the only one in this country; the other is, in all probability, unique, and is now published for the first time.

Few cabinets in England possess coins of this rare series; and it is on this account, as well as from the interest attached to them owing to the circumstance of their illustrating each other, that they are here admitted. "It may not be amiss to remind the reader," remarks Mr. Thomas, in the observations with which he accompanied the drawings he permitted me to have

made of these interesting objects, " that, until the time of Domitian, the portraits of the kings of the Cimmerian Bosphorus (a country now known as the Crimea), are seldom, if ever, found upon their gold coins:* that on one side the head of the contemporary Roman emperor is generally found in lieu of it, and on the other, that of the Cæsar or nearest relative of the emperor. Even the names of the kings of the Bosphorus are not given at length, but in a monogram or contracted form: the date, however, always found upon them, indicates the year in which they were minted."

" The celebrated Visconti," continues Mr. Thomas, " was the first, who, upon an inspection of the identical gold coin here described,† pronounced the juvenile portrait which it bears to be that of Britannicus;‡ an opinion which was sanctioned by the date, which shews that the

* Mionnet, " Description de Médailles Antiques" (tom. ii. p. 369), describes one of the portraits upon each of the coins numbered 54 to 58, as of Rhescuporis the First, king of the Bosphorus; but Visconti, in his " Iconographie Grecque" (tom. ii. p. 153), supposes them to be portraits of *Romans*, and does not admit them in that work because they do not belong to the series of *Greek* portraits.

† This coin was formerly in the collection of M. Allier.

‡ Iconographie Grecque, tom. ii. p. 158, 4to. edit. 1811.

piece was struck while Messalina, the mother of that prince, yet lived, and was in the plenitude of her power and influence. It would appear, that it was not until after the death of that empress, when the crafty Agrippina had become the wife of the imbecile Claudius, and advanced her son (by her first marriage), that Cotys caused the portrait of Nero to be engraved on his gold coins."

Since the publication of Visconti's valuable "Iconographie Grecque," the copper coin, described above, has been discovered; and, while it proves beyond doubt, that the youthful portraits are of the same personage, confirms the opinion which that able antiquary had ventured upon the gold one. The value and interest of this coin are greatly increased on account of its being the only example bearing a portrait of Cotys the First.

DOMITIANUS.

Of this prince we have no coins relating to Britain; but we find on his money GERMANIA CAPTA, and types commemorating a victory over the Catti, which he never obtained, although he celebrated a triumph in which a troop of slaves,

dressed in the German costume, were paraded as captives! May we not suppose that the reason of there being no coins of Domitian with records of victories in Britain, was the excessive jealousy which Tacitus, in his life of Agricola, says the tyrant entertained towards that celebrated general?

HADRIANUS.

[A.D. 117 TO A.D. 138.]

IN the reign of this prince the Britons revolted; and Julius Severus was recalled to proceed against the Jews, who had made an effort to recover their liberty. The Caledonians also destroyed several forts which had been erected by Agricola.* Hadrian, with three legions, arrived in time to prevent the Britons from throwing off the Roman yoke; and to protect the northern frontiers of the province, built a wall which extended from the Tyne in Northumberland to the Eden in Cumberland. The war does not appear to have been of long continuance; and the

* The Roman general had previously had some skirmishing with the northern inhabitants; but his presence was considered of more importance in the East.

southern Britons, protected from the incursions of their savage neighbours, were probably content to bear the Roman yoke.

Hadrian's arrival in Britain is commemorated by a large brass coin struck in the year of Rome 874, A.D. 121.

Obverse. HADRIANVS AVG. COS. III. P. P. *Hadrianus Augustus, Consul tertium, Pater Patriæ.* Laureated bust of Hadrianus, with the chlamys buckled over the right shoulder.

Reverse. ADVENTVS* AVG. BRITANNIAE. *Adventus Augusti Britanniæ.* In the exergue, S. C. An altar with the fire kindled, placed between the emperor in the toga, holding a patera, and a female figure with a victim lying at her feet.

Types very similar to this were struck to commemorate the emperor's arrival in Cilicia, Gaul, &c. There is another very rare coin in large brass.

Obverse. HADRIANVS AVG. COS. III. *Hadrianus Augustus, Consul tertium.* Laureated head of Hadrianus to the right.

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* On the coins given by Eckhel, Rasche, and Vaillant, the word is ADVENTVI, which Captain Smyth, in his interesting description, has inadvertently followed, although the large brass coin, in the gallant Captain's cabinet, reads ADVENTVS. This is the more remarkable, as the coins of Hadrian commemorating his arrival in the other provinces, invariably read ADVENTVI.

Reverse. BRITANNIA. A female figure seated, her right foot resting on a rock, her head resting on her right hand, and spear in her left; by her side a large shield, with a spike in the centre.

Antiquaries believe the figure on the reverse of this coin to be the province of Britain personified. It cannot be Rome: and the absence of characteristic attributes of the island, is in all probability owing to the ignorance of the engraver of the die, which was doubtless not executed in Britain.

In the Museum Theupolum,* a work to the general accuracy of which Eckhel bears testimony, a large brass coin of Hadrian is described as follows:—

Obverse. HADRIANVS AVG. COS. III. P. P. *Hadrianus Augustus, Consul tertium, Pater Patriæ.* Bare head of the emperor.

Reverse. EXERC. BRITAN. *Exercitus Britannicus.* The emperor, on a tribune or estrade, haranguing his troops.

Although this coin is not known to our English numismatists, it is by no means a proof that it does not exist. Vaillant† notices a type and legend very similar:—

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* Vol. i. p. 467. † Num. Imp. Rom. tom. i. p. 62.

EXERC. BRITANNICVS. Imperator paludatus stans, in suggestu adloquitur cohortes. In aliis, Imperator eques.

To this he appends the following remark:—"Hic nummus primæ formæ inter rariores numerandus (imo inter rarissimos)." Nevertheless, some artful rogue may have formed this coin from another of a similar type, by altering the letters of the legend.

Second or middle brass coins of Hadrian also bear allusion to Britain: of these there are two varieties.

I.

Obverse. HADRIANVS AVG. COS. III. *Hadrianus Augustus, Consul tertium.* Laureated head of the emperor.

Reverse. BRITANNIA. A female figure seated on a rock, holding a javelin, her right hand supporting her head; a large shield by her side, with a long spike in the centre.

The attitude of repose given to the figure on the reverse of this coin, the type of which resembles that of the large brass, would seem to imply that it was struck when peace had been restored in Britain.

II.

Obverse. HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS COS. III. *Hadrianus Augustus, Consul tertium.* Laureated head of the emperor.

Reverse. PONT. MAX. TR. POT. COS. III. P. P. *Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitia Potestate, Consul tertium, Pater Patriæ;* in the exergue, BRITANNIA. A female figure as on the preceding coin.

Havercamp* thinks these figures are intended to represent the secure, but watchful state of the province. The attitude of repose signifies that the Britons have no longer cause to dread the incursions of their barbarian neighbours; while the spear and shield indicate that the province is prepared to repel any attack.

No gold or silver coin of Hadrian, with allusion to Britain, is known; a deficiency for which it is difficult to account, as the coins of that prince, in gold and silver, are exceedingly numerous. Did Hadrian, the gold and silver coinage being under the imperial controul, interdict the striking of pieces in those metals?

Mediobarba† gives a denarius of Hadrian with ADLOCVTIO BRITANNICA, the emperor haranguing his soldiers; but this is of very questionable authority.

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* Médailles De Christine, p. 59, tab. xii. The rarity of this coin is particularly noticed by Havercamp.

† Edit. 1730, p. 178.

ANTONINUS PIUS.

[A.D. 138 TO A.D. 161.]

THE coins of this emperor have been found in great numbers in England; and one bearing "Britannia," has now and then been discovered among them; but there are several varieties of this interesting type, some of which are of great rarity.

The first is a gold coin or aureus.

Obverse. Unknown.*

Reverse. BRITAN. Victory standing on a globe, holding a garland and a palm-branch, an elegant type repeated on a coin of this emperor in large brass.

This, and some of the coins which follow, in all probability, commemorate the victory over the revolted Brigantes, who made incursions upon their neighbours, then leagued with the Romans. Lollius Urbicus, the Roman general, defeated them with great slaughter, and raised a turf wall still further to the northward, extending, as our

* Vaillant, Num. Imp. Rom. tom. ii. p. 159, gives the reverse only of this coin. It is not known in England.

English antiquaries suppose, from the Tyne to Carlisle.*

Victory was an important deity among the Greeks and Romans; and she is accordingly figured on great numbers of their coins. Tacitus says that, besides other prodigies which preceded the revolt of the Britons under Boadicea, the image of Victory, set up at Camulodunum, fell down without any apparent cause, with its back to the enemy.†

The representation of this goddess cannot be mistaken; her attitude is generally graceful, and on this coin is elegant.‡ Sylla built a temple to

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* Pausanias records, that Antoninus took from the Brigantes the greater part of their territory, because they had made war on the Genunians, who were the allies of the Romans:— Ἀπετέμετο δὲ καὶ τῶν ἐν Βριττανίᾳ Βριγάντων τὴν πολλὴν, ὅτι ἐπεσβαίνειν καὶ οὗτοι σὺν τοῖς ὅπλοις ἦρξαν τὴν Γενουνίαν μοῖραν, ὑπηκόους Ῥωμαίων. Arcad. lib. viii. cap. 43. The passage immediately preceding this, mentions the defeat of the Moors by Antoninus, which probably obtained him the title of Imperator for the first time; that for the second time being given him for successes in Britain.

† "Inter quæ, nullâ palam causâ, delapsum Camuloduni simulacrum Victoriæ, ac retro conversum, quasi cederet hostibus." Annales, lib. xiv. c. 32.

‡ Among the collection of monuments found in the line of the Roman wall, and now preserved in the museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, is a bas-relief with a figure of Victory thus represented.

Victory at Rome, and instituted games in her honour; and we are told, that Hiero, king of Sicily, made a present to the Romans of a statue of Victory in solid gold. She had a fine statue in the Capitol, of which the figure on the reverse of the coin here described, may have been a copy. Rome is constantly represented on the coins of the lower empire, seated in a chair, and holding the hasta and a small figure of Victory, whom the early Christians seemed disposed to reverence after the gods of their forefathers had disappeared, since her statues were protected long after those of the other deities had been demolished.

The next coins are of *large brass;* and of these there are several varieties, all with records of the Consulship, and the title of *Imperator*, the value of which has been shown by Eckhel.* The reverse of the first is similar to the gold coin above described.

I.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. *Antoninus Augustus Pius, Pater Patriæ, Tribunitia Potestate, Consul tertium.* The bearded and laureated head of Antoninus.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II (*Imperator iterum*): across the field of the coin, BRITAN. An elegant winged

* Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vii. p. 14.

Victory standing on a globe, holding a garland in her right hand, and a palm branch in her left.

I never heard of a discovery of a coin with this type in England. One of them at the sale of Mr. Edgar's cabinet, in 1815, brought the very high price of £5 : 7*s.* 6*d.*; but it was in remarkably fine preservation.*

II.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. *Antoninus Augustus Pius, Pater Patriæ, Tribunitia Potestate, Consul tertium.* Laureated head of the emperor.

Reverse. BRITANNIA. A male figure wearing trousers seated on a rock, his head covered apparently with the skin of some animal. In his right hand a standard, the emblem of a garrisoned province; in his left a javelin, by his side a large oval shield with a long spike in the centre.†

III.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P....*An-*

* This is mentioned here, not as a guide to collectors, but merely to shew what a scarce and unusually well-preserved coin will bring when offered for competition to *eager amateurs*. Mr. Edgar's coins brought, in almost every instance, double their estimated value, several of his friends having resolved that the collection should bring the highest possible sum.

† In the first edition of this work the figure is described as that of a female, in deference to the opinion of Captain Smyth, who considered it feminine; but a further inspection of the original in the British Museum warrants a different description, in which I am sanctioned by Dr. Charles Grotefend.

toninus Augustus Pius, Pater Patriæ, Tribunitia Potestate. Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II (*Imperator iterum*) and BRITAN. across the field. A helmeted female figure seated on a rock holding a javelin in her right hand; her left reposing on a large ornamented shield by her side, her right foot resting on a globe.

The reverse of this coin differs materially from those of all the others of this series. Instead of a female figure bare-headed, as on the coins of Hadrian, we have here doubtless a personification of Rome herself, her dominion being aptly enough portrayed by the globe beneath her right foot, while she grasps a javelin (a barbarian weapon) instead of a spear.

IV.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. *Antoninus Augustus Pius, Pater Patriæ, Tribunitia Potestate, Consul tertium.* Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. BRITANNIA. A male figure seated on a perpendicular rock, holding a standard in his right hand and a javelin in his left; by his side a large oval shield with a spike in the centre, resting on a helmet placed on the ground.

V.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated head of Antoninus to the right.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II (*Imperator iterum*): in the exergue (BRI)TAN. A male figure with laureated

head seated on a rock; in his right hand a standard, in his left a spear; his left arm resting on the edge of a large spiked shield by his side.

VI.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated head to the right.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II (*Imperator iterum*): in the exergue, BRITAN. A female figure seated on a globe surrounded by waves; in her right hand a standard, in her left a javelin; her elbow resting upon the edge of a large buckler by her side.

This is perhaps the most interesting coin of the whole series. The type illustrates the oft-quoted line of Virgil:—

"Et penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos."*

Or that of Claudian:—

"——— et nostro diducta Britannia mundo."†

or the

"——————— ultimos
Orbis Britannos,"

of Horace;‡ all marking the insular or remote situation of Britain, which the Romans considered "out of the world."§ The figure seated on a globe doubtless typifies the subjugated province.

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* Ecl. i. 67.

† De Mall. Theod. Cons. v. 51.

‡ Carm. lib. i. Od. 35, v. 29.

§ Dion Cassius says, that Plautius, in the time of Claudius, had great difficulty in transporting his troops to Britain; they complained that they were going to war in a country beyond the world. Lib. lx. c. 19.

VII.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II (*Imperator iterum*): in the exergue, BRITANNIA. A male figure seated on a rock; in his right hand a standard, in his left a spear; his left arm resting on the edge of a large ornamented oval shield, supported by a helmet.

VIII.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated head to the right.

Reverse. BRITANNIA. A male figure seated on a rock; his right hand holding a standard; his left arm reposing on the edge of a shield placed by his side.

The type of this curious coin is somewhat puzzling. It bears on the obverse the head and name of Antoninus; but the seated figure on the reverse is obviously a portrait of *Hadrian*. It is difficult to find a reason for this, unless we suppose that the die for the reverse was originally intended for a coin of Hadrian during the life of that emperor, but for some cause or other not used on his money. Or was it designed by the senate as a tribute to the memory of Hadrian, who certainly performed more in Britain than his successor? In either case, it is a very curious type. That the figure on the reverse is that of Hadrian, no one acquainted with the portraits of that emperor will deny.

Another elegant coin in large brass was doubt-

less struck to commemorate the successes of the Romans in Britain.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. Laureated head of Antoninus to the right.

Reverse. IMP. II TR. PO. COS. III. *Imperator iterum, Tribunitia Potestate, Consul tertium.* Victory marching to the right, holding a trophy with both hands.

There are also two coins in middle brass.

I.

Obverse. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. IMPERATOR II. Victory walking to the left, holding in her right hand a buckler inscribed BRITAN.

This type would seem to indicate, that a decisive victory had been obtained by the Romans over the Brigantes. The type of the next coin is a contrast to this. It was minted in the *fourth* consulate of Antoninus, and probably denotes that the campaign was then ended.

II.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. P. P. TR. P. COS. III. Laureated* head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. BRITANNIA COS. IIII. *Britannia Consul quartum.* A female figure seated on a rock in an

* A coin in the cabinet of Mr. Thomas has the head *radiated.*

attitude of dejection; before her, a large oval shield, and a military standard.

Of all the Roman coins relating to Britain, this is the most frequently discovered in England. Some time since, one of them was dug up in St. Saviour's churchyard, near London Bridge. They are generally found in very ordinary condition, and are scarcely ever met with in fine preservation. It is somewhat singular that among the numerous fine and interesting brass medallions of Antoninus not one bears allusion to Britain.

COMMODUS.

[A.D. 180 TO A.D. 192.]

IN the reign of this emperor, the Caledonians again passed the boundary wall, ravaged the country, and put to the sword the Roman troops. The incursion being sudden and unexpected, the Roman general was taken by surprise. Commodus, on receiving the news of this irruption, despatched Ulpius Marcellus into Britain; when the invaders were driven back beyond the wall, and the Roman discipline, which had been suffered to decay, was revived by Marcellus. We

learn from Herodian that Commodus was ambitious of the name of *Britannicus*, although he did not visit the province; and this is shewn by his coins, upon which it frequently appears with other equally inappropriate and unmerited titles.* During the reign of Commodus, Pertinax, Clodius Albinus, and Julius Severus were, at various times, governors of Britain.

Among the numerous beautiful medallions of this emperor, are three with records of the war in Britain. They are of large size, and two of them differ but slightly from each other.

Obverse. M. COMMODVS ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS BRIT. *Marcus Commodus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Britannicus.* Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. BRITTANIA P. M. TR. P. X. IMP. VII. COS. IIII. P. P. *Brittania, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitia Potestate decimum, Imperator septimum, Consul quartum, Pater Patriæ.* A male figure seated on a rock to the right, holding in his right hand a military standard, and in his left a javelin; by his side a shield inscribed S. P. Q. R. (*Senatus Populusque Romanus*).

This medallion, which is of great rarity, is in the national collection at Paris: it differs from

* Lampridius indulges in some severe remarks upon the assumption of the names *Britannicus* and *Pius*, by Commodus.

MEDALLION OF COMMODUS. Page 37.

that in the cabinet of Mr. Thomas, having the letters S. P. Q. R., instead of a spike, in the centre of the shield.* The spelling of Britannia is worthy of observation. Dr. Charles Grotefend thinks it is imitated from the Greek Βρεττανια.†

Another most interesting medallion, in the possession of Mr. Thomas, is of great rarity.

Obverse. M. COMMODVS ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS BRIT. *Marcus Commodus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Britannicus.* Laureated bust of Commodus to the right, with the paludamentum.

Reverse. P. M. TR. P. X. IMP. VII. . . . . the remainder of the legend not being impressed, in consequence of the module of the medallion being too small.‡ Victory seated on a heap of arms, inscribing on a shield VICT. BRIT. (*Victoria Britannica*) in two lines: before her, a trophy.

Captain Smyth, in his very interesting work on the large brass coins of the emperors, is of opinion that the coin of Commodus, which follows, was minted before the campaign was ended,

* That in the French cabinet is also without the numerals VII.

† That gentleman, to whom I am greatly indebted for many valuable remarks on the first edition of this work, observes that, in Horace and Propertius, the first syllable of Britannia is short, but in Lucretius, on the contrary, it is long.

‡ The continuation of this legend, when entire, is, COS. IIII. P. P.

because Victory holds a shield without inscription. If the conjecture be admitted, this medallion was struck at a subsequent period, when the war had terminated; but the IMP. VII. is against it. Had the medallion been executed by a decree of the conscript fathers, they would not have dared to omit the record of another victory: on the other hand, if the striking of these pieces had been at the disposal of the tyrant, he who assumed the title of *Conqueror of a Thousand Gladiators*, would not have neglected to style himself Imperator for the *eighth* time.*

A coin in large brass is by no means uncommon, although, from its interest, it is not always to be obtained so easily as scarcer coins of this emperor. The type, which is of inferior execution, and low relief, is generally struck on a scanty flan of metal.

Obverse. M. COMMODVS ANTON. AVG. PIVS BRIT. *Marcus Commodus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Britannicus.* Laureated head of the emperor to

* Herodian says, that Commodus took away the head of a statue of the sun, for which the Romans had a peculiar veneration, and set up his own in the place of it; and that, not content with the ordinary titles assumed by the Roman emperors, he inscribed upon the base, *the conqueror of a thousand gladiators*—μονομάχους χιλίους νικήσαντος (lib. i. c. 48).

the right, with the hair, beard, and moustaches dressed.

Reverse. P. M. TR. P. X. IMP. VII. COS. IIII. P. P. in the exergue, VICT. BRIT. (*Victoria Britannica*). Victory seated to the right, on a heap of shields, holding in her right hand a palm-branch, and supporting with her left arm a shield, which she rests on her knees.

SEVERUS.

[A.D. 193 TO A.D. 211.]

THE sojourn and death of Severus in Britain render it necessary that we should say something of his extraordinary career, and of the motives which induced him to visit this country. The great military fame of this emperor was tarnished, if not obscured, by his ferocity and cruelty;* but if we look only at his military expeditions, his sagacity, promptitude, and judgment, we shall find that circumstances alone were wanting to render him as celebrated as the most famous

* Spartian informs us that the people sometimes jested on the names of *Severus* and *Pertinax*, sallies which cost some of them their lives; and Julian, in his "Cæsars," makes Silenus remark that he is afraid to say anything of Severus. "I dread," says he, "the excessive cruelty of a man who never forgives!"

heroes of antiquity. Possessed of the purple, which he had acquired by a series of exploits which may justly be paralleled with those of Cæsar and Hannibal, Severus discovered that the cares of government were as arduous as the toils of a campaign; and he who had braved danger in many a hard-fought battle, found the throne of a usurper beset with perils no less imminent. Naturally mistrustful, his jealousies and alarms were increased by the discovery of a conspiracy against him by his most tried and intimate friends; while the increasing dissensions of his sons, Caracalla and Geta, added greatly to his inquietude, and made sad havoc upon a constitution already impaired by a life of hardship and the advances of old age.

It has been well observed by Gibbon, that "the ascent to greatness, however steep and dangerous, may entertain an active spirit with the consciousness and exercise of its own powers; but the possession of a throne could never yet afford a lasting satisfaction to an ambitious mind."* Severus was doomed to experience this bitter truth: "*Omnia fui, et nihil expedit!*" was the dying exclamation of this daring and successful

* See Lord Bacon's essay, "Of Empire," where this restlessness of ambitious princes is discussed with his usual sagacity.

despot, of whom scarcely one single act of mercy or forbearance is recorded.*

Bodily infirmity and mental anxiety had made inroads upon the naturally robust and vigorous constitution of Severus, so much so, indeed, that the gout had deprived him of the use of his feet; but, even in this state, the news of the revolt of the Britons was welcome to the crippled emperor: his mind found relief in activity, and he had long been desirous of weaning his sons from the luxury and effeminacy of Roman life. Herodian says, that the governor of Britain wrote to Severus, informing him of the rebellion, and entreating

* Eutropius (lib. viii. c. 19), tells us that Severus was attached to the arts of peace, and loved literature and philosophy: and Dion Cassius (lib. lxxvi.) observes that, although he was exceedingly covetous, and amassed money by any means, he was a friend to literature. Such accounts are, however, refuted by the public acts of Severus. Of his partiality to literary men we have no record; and his restless and ferocious disposition was utterly incompatible with philosophical studies. These descriptions, like Tertullian's character of Severus and his sons, are to be taken *cum grano*. Baudelot (Utilité de Voyages) shrewdly conjectures that this idea of Severus' love of the arts originated in the fact of his fondness for seeing strange countries, which Spartian describes in these words:—"Jucundam sibi peregrinationem hanc propter religionem Dei Serapidis, et propter novitatem animalium vel locorum fuisse, Severus ipse postea semper ostendit: nam et Memphin et Memnonem et Pyramides et Labyrinthum diligenter inspexit."

him either to send reinforcements, or come immediately in person to reduce the revolted islanders. The emperor, upon receipt of this intelligence, caused proclamation to be made of his intended expedition, and having soon collected a formidable army, he commenced the march with his usual rapidity, and soon arrived in Britain. His unexpected appearance, with such a force, astonished and alarmed the revolted Britons, who immediately sent ambassadors to negociate a peace and make terms with the exasperated tyrant; but his wrath could only be queñched in their blood. Nevertheless, he affected to temporise; and having, by keeping the ambassadors in suspense for some days, gained sufficient time to mature his plans, he dismissed them with an assurance that he would take ample vengeance. Herodian says, he was ambitious of the title of *Britannicus*, and of crowning his victories in other countries by erecting trophies in Britain. This author informs us, that the campaign was a hard one, even for a general like Severus: he also gives us some curious particulars of our savage ancestors, and of their island. The country, he observes, was in many places overflowed by the sea; and the bogs and marshes presented great difficulties to the operations of the Roman army. The natives

were scarcely acquainted with the use of clothes, and were consequently prepared for swimming or wading through the mud and water, when desirous of retreating before their enemies.* He speaks of their painted bodies, of which he says they were very vain, and characterizes them as a warlike and sanguinary race. Their arms, he says, were a narrow shield, a lance, and a bow. Defensive armour they had none; they looked upon helmet and coat of mail as impediments to their passage through the swamps and morasses.†

Leaving Geta to the government of that portion of the island which remained in the Roman interest, Severus and his son Antoninus, or, as he is most commonly called, Caracalla, advanced against the enemy, whom they overthrew in several engagements; not, however, without suffering severely: but ere the war was ended, the growing infirmities of Severus compelled him to quit the field, leaving Caracalla to carry on the

* Dion Cassius (lib. lxxvi.) says that their manners were most simple; that they had neither walls nor towns, nor cultivated lands; that they lived upon wild fruits, and by hunting; and that, although the sea abounded with fish, they never ate any.

† Herodian tells us that these morasses continually emitted thick vapours, which obscured the face of heaven.

contest. Retiring to York, and finding his end approaching, the emperor had his dying moments embittered by the detection of his son's design against his life; for it is said, that this appalling discovery reached the stern and relentless soul of Severus, and that it hastened his death, which took place in that city, in the year of Rome 964 (A.D. 211). In his last moments he recommended unity to his sons, and, with characteristic ferocity, urged his generals to prosecute the war against the Caledonians until they were exterminated.*

I now come to describe such of the coins of Severus as have relation to the country in which he ended his eventful life, commencing with one in large brass, which is generally considered by numismatists to have reference to some advantages obtained by the Romans over the Picts.

Obverse. L. SEPT. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. *Lucius Septimius Severus Pius Augustus.* Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. P. M. TR. P. XVIII. COS. P. P. *Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitia Potestate decimum octavum, Consul, Pater Patriæ.* The emperor in a military

* Dion Cassius says it was foretold that Severus would not return alive from Britain; a prophecy which was doubtless founded upon the knowledge of Caracalla's design upon his life.

dress, attended by two soldiers, each bearing a standard, standing between his two sons: a captive on the ground.

This coin, by the record of tribunitian power, was struck A.D. 210. The advantages which it boasts, are, however, very doubtful, as the expedition is said to have cost the Romans fifty thousand men.

The next is also of large brass, and appears to commemorate an important victory.

Obverse. L. SEPT. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. *Lucius Septimius Severus Pius Augustus.* The laureated and bearded head of Severus, to the right. All his coins represent him with a beard, which he wore, says Dion, out of respect to the memory of Aurelius and Pertinax.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Two winged Victories attaching a circular buckler to a palm tree, at the foot of which two captives are seated.

Some numismatists think that a double victory is implied by the two figures holding the shield; but they may possibly be intended to indicate that the glory was shared between Severus and his son. The same type is repeated on another coin of Severus, but it has the legend VICT. BRIT. P. M. TR. P. XIX. COS. III. P. P.

The middle or second brass coins of Severus with allusion to Britain are the following:—

I.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. *Severus Pius Augustus Britannicus.* Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Victory standing between two captives seated on the ground, holding with both hands a standard transversely.

II.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. *Severus Pius Augustus Britannicus.* Laureated head of the emperor to the right.

Reverse. VICT. BRIT. P. M. TR. P. XIX. COS. III. P. P. *Victoriæ Britannicæ, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitia Potestate decimum nonum, Consul tertium, Pater Patriæ.* A similar type to that on the reverse of the preceding coin.

On these coins we find the title of *Britannicus*, which Spartian informs us, he assumed on account of his building the great wall to which his name was afterwards given:—"Britanniam (quod maximum ejus imperii decus est) muro per transversam insulam ducto, utriusque ad finem Oceani munivit: *unde etiam Britannici nomen accepit:*" but it is singular that Dion Cassius and Herodian make no mention of such a defence. It was probably after all nothing more than a reparation of the wall built by Hadrian.

The following types occur in gold and silver:—

I.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Severus to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. *Victoriæ Britannicæ.* Victory standing to the left, holding in her right hand a garland, and in her left a palm-branch.

II.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Severus to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory holding a captive.

The next are found only in silver:—

I.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory attaching a buckler to the trunk of a tree.

II.

Obverse. SEVERVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory seated on a shield, holding in her right hand another shield, resting on her knees, and in her left a palm-branch.

CLODIUS ALBINUS.

[A.D. 193 TO A.D. 197.]

DECIMUS CLODIUS SEPTIMIUS ALBINUS, the son of Cejonius Postumus by Aurelia Messalina, was a

native of Hadrumetum in Africa. His parents were noble, and, according to Capitolinus, he traced his descent from the ancient families, Postumia and Cejonia.*

Whatever was the real character of this prince, and it is difficult to glean the truth from the accounts of the historians of the period, it is certain that he obtained the favour and confidence of Marcus Aurelius, who made him *Consul suffectus*, and that Commodus paid him marked attention; for it is said, that that tyrant permitted him to assume the rank of Cæsar, a permission of which he prudently declined to avail himself.† Having been governor of Gaul, and subsequently of Britain, he appears to have awaited the turn of events on the death of Commodus, when the news arrived of the murder of Pertinax, and the succession of Didius Julianus, who had purchased the empire! Julianus held his honours but a few weeks, and was put to death by order of the servile senate, who were terrified at the news of the advance of Severus upon the capital, with the legions of Pannonia.‡

Arrived at the seat of empire, Severus, whose craft and cunning were equal to his activity and

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* Capitolinus, c. i. † Ibid. c. 10.
‡ Herodian, lib. ii. c. 41.

ferocity, soon perceived, that though the conscript fathers were subjected to his will, and the licentious prætorian guards stripped and banished, he had yet two powerful rivals, each the general of a well disciplined army. Pescennius Niger was in Syria, and Clodius Albinus in Britain, and both were in better favour at Rome than himself. There was little time for deliberation; and Severus appears to have decided at once upon the course he should adopt. Having lulled Albinus into fancied security by awarding to him the title of Cæsar, and striking coins with his effigy and name,* he marched in person against Niger, who after a succession of reverses was finally overthrown near Antioch, and being overtaken in his flight, his head was struck off, and carried in triumph to the conqueror.

The next care of Severus was the destruction of Albinus, who, during his absence in the East, had ingratiated himself with the senate; but he preferred stratagem and deceit to open hostilities, and hoped to despatch his rival by assassination. He therefore wrote to Albinus the following letter, which is preserved by Capitolinus:—†

* Ὁ δὲ Σεβῆρος, καὶ πρὸς τὴν σύγκλητον τὰ αὐτὰ ἀνενεγκὼν, ὡς ἂν μᾶλλον αὐτὸν εἰς πίστιν ὑπαγάγοιτο, νομίσματά τε αὐτοῦ κοπῆναι ἐπέτρεψε, κ. τ. λ. Herodian, lib. ii. c. 49.

† In Albino.

"IMPERATOR SEVERUS AUGUSTUS, CLODIO ALBINO CÆSARI, FRATRI AMANTISSIMO, ET DESIDERATISSIMO, SALUTEM.

"Victo Pescennio, litteras Romam dedimus, quas Senatus tui amantissimus libenter accepit. Te quæso, ut eo animo Rempublicam regas, quo dilectus es frater animi mei, frater imperii. Bassianus et Geta te salutant. Juliæ nostra et te, et sororem salutat. Infantulo tuo Pescennio Prineo munera digna suo loco, tuoque mittemus. Tu velim exercitus reipublicæ ac nobis retentes, mi unanime, mi carissime, mi amantissime."

The bearers of this treacherous epistle were instructed to obtain a private audience of Albinus, and plunge their daggers into his breast! The intentions of Severus were, however, betrayed; and Albinus, perceiving that he was no longer safe in his island province, condemned the bearers of the letter, and crossing over to the continent, assumed the style of Augustus. But his active and subtle enemy was fully prepared to meet him, and was marching for Gaul, with his usual promptitude, at the head of a well tried and powerful army. Herodian informs us, that upon Albinus' arrival in Gaul, he encamped, and sent orders to the præfects of the neighbouring provinces to furnish him with supplies of

money and provisions. Some obeyed the summons, for which they incurred the resentment of Severus, who sacrificed them to his fury; others, from some unexplained cause, did not comply with this request, and thereby preserved their lives.

After several skirmishes, the two armies came to a decisive action near Lyons. The struggle was long and obstinate; the Illyrian legions were opposed to those of Britain, and the issue of the contest remained for some time doubtful. It is said however, that, during the conflict, the wing which Severus commanded in person was thrown into disorder; and that the emperor having been unhorsed was compelled to divest himself of the purple to avoid being captured. At this critical juncture, Lætus, the general of Severus, advanced and turned the fortune of the day. It is said, that this man had an eye to the empire, and that he lingered on the way with the detachment under his command, when, having heard that Severus was slain, he pushed forward with his troops, whom he had commanded to march slowly in order to keep them fresh and vigorous.* The

* Herodian says that Severus, after he had secured the empire to himself, rewarded all his captains, with the exception of Lætus, whom he put to death, believing that he meditated treason on this important day.

troops of Albinus being broken and disordered by the pursuit, were now assailed by the new comers, who drove them from the field with great slaughter, pursuing them to the gates of the city. Albinus fled with his scattered army, and attempted to despatch himself; an act which his pursuers nearly anticipated, for it is said, they cut off his head while he yet breathed, and carried it to Severus, who insulted it with the most brutal indignity. Lyons was plundered and burnt by the victorious soldiers: the horrors of the scene may be imagined by those who are familiar with the character of Severus.

Thus terminated the life of Clodius Albinus, the last rival of the ferocious Severus. The conqueror sent his head to Rome, to be exposed in public, and with it a letter full of ominous threatenings; then, having appointed two governors in Britain (probably that one might be a check upon the other), he put to death the friends and adherents of Albinus, and confiscated their estates, "making no distinction," says the historian, "between those who had voluntarily joined his rival's standard, and those who had been compelled through fear of refusal."

Having poured out the measure of his wrath on the adherents of Albinus in Gaul, Severus hastened to Rome, where, after bestowing gifts

both to his soldiers and the people, he ascended the tribune, bitterly reproached the senate for their favouring the cause of his rivals, and condemned to death the most eminent men in that assembly. It is said, that he had obtained the private cabinet of Albinus in the sack of Lyons, and that it contained many papers which afforded evidence of the correspondence of the Cæsar with his friends in Rome.*

The name of the consort of Albinus is not mentioned by historians; but, from the letter of Severus, given above, we learn that he had an infant son named Pescennius Prineus.† These were at first pardoned, but pity and mercy were strangers to the breast of the ferocious despot, who immediately afterwards caused them to be murdered, and their remains to be cast into the Rhone.

Coins of Albinus exist in gold, silver, and brass. Those of gold are of extreme rarity, and but four varieties are known. A coin in this metal is preserved in the Imperial collection at Vienna, and has been supposed to be a modern fabrication, on account of its bearing the style

* Herodian, lib. iii. c. 25, 26.

† Tristan (Comm. Historiques) gives a coin of Pescennia Plautilla, the wife of Albinus, but it is not authenticated.

Pater Patriæ, while the obverse has that of *Cæsar** only; and a silver coin is described by Eckhel from Vaillant as follows:—

Obverse IMP. CAES. CL. SEPT. ALBIN. AVG. *Imperator Cæsar Clodius Septimius Albinus Augustus.* Laureated head of Albinus.

Reverse. S. P. Q. R. P. P. OB C. S. *Senatus populusque Romanus ob cives servatos.* The whole within a laurel garland.

Eckhel supposes that Albinus had a senate in Gaul,† who conferred upon him the title of *Pater Patriæ*, and cites the examples of Scipio in Africa, and Cæsar, as well as Postumus in Gaul at a later period. It seems, however, equally probable that these coins were prepared in haste, and the dies engraved at a distance from the capital of the empire, by artists inexperienced in the business of minting. The following types occur in gold. The reverses only are given.

1. APOLLINI AVG. COS. II. Apollo in a female habit.

The same type also occurs in silver. Apollo was a favourite deity of Albinus, as we learn

* There is no doubt that the coins of Albinus with the title of AVG*ustus* were minted after the detection of Severus' design against his life, probably after his arrival in Gaul, for they are of rude execution, very inferior to those bearing the title of Cæsar.

† Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vii. p. 164.

from Capitolinus; but why he is represented in a female habit cannot so easily be explained. On coins of earlier emperors Apollo is seen thus depicted.

2. FORT. REDVCI COS. II. Fortune, with her attributes, seated.

This type also occurs in silver; and as it is found on the coins of Albinus, both with *Augustus* and *Cæsar*, its precise application can only be conjectured. At the sale of the Trattle cabinet, a gold coin of this type was purchased for the Duc de Blacas at the extravagant price of £70!

3. PROVID. AVG. COS. Providence, with her attributes, standing.

A type which is perpetually found on the coins of other emperors. It is, therefore, hazardous to refer its adoption by Albinus to any special occasion. It occurs in gold and silver.

4. SAECVLO FRVGIFERO COS. II. A veiled bearded figure, in a long robe, wearing a tiara, seated between two sphinxes, each wearing the Phrygian bonnet.

This type, a most remarkable and unique one, does not occur in silver. It was for a long time a numismatic enigma, and has only recently been illustrated by Mons. Lenormant.* That gentleman supposes the seated figure to be the

* Revue Numismatique, Année 1842, p. 90.

Phœnician deity Αἰὼν, or *Sæculum*, who was worshipped at Hadrumetum, near Carthage, the birth-place of Albinus. The epithet *Frugiferum* seems to confirm this, for, in an inscription given by Gruter, it appears that even so late as the days of Constantine, the Roman colony of Hadrumetum retained, among other names, that of *Frugifera*. "COLONIAE CONCORDIAE VLPIAE TRAIANAE AVGVSTAE FRVGIFERAE HADRVMETINAE." This very singular type appears on a brass medallion of Albinus.

The following types are in silver; those marked with a (*) having sometimes the title of *Cæsar*, and sometimes those of *Imperator* and *Augustus*. With the exception of Nos. 4 and 9, they offer no peculiarities; but the intent and significance of these is palpable; while No. 18 is a type found only on coins of Albinus, and not satisfactorily explained by the earlier numismatic writers. Captain Smyth* with great reason supposes the naked figure to be the Genius of Fertility, an opinion which receives something like confirmation when we compare it with the remarkable type described above.

1. CLEMENTIA AVG. COS. II.
2. COS. II. Æsculapius standing with his attributes.

* Descript. Catalogue, p. 181.

3. FELICITAS COS. II. Felicity standing.
4. FIDES LEGION COS. II. The Roman eagle between two military ensigns.
5. *Same legend.* Two hands joined.

A considerable number of denarii of this type were discovered a few years since near Lyons. They were of exceedingly rude workmanship, and bore the title of Augustus.

6. FORTITVDO AVG. INVICTA. Hercules standing.
7. FORTVNA AVG. COS. II. Fortune, with her attributes, standing.
8. FORT. REDVCI COS. II. Fortune seated.
9. GEN. LVG. COS. II. Genius standing, with an eagle at his feet.
10. IOVI VICTORI. Jupiter seated.
11. IOVIS VICTORIAE COS. II. Jupiter standing; an eagle at his feet.
12. MINER. PACIF. COS. II. (or MINER. PAC. COS. II.) Minerva standing.
13. MONET. AVG. COS. II. Moneta standing.
14. PAX AVG. COS. II. Peace standing.
15. PROVID. AVG COS. Providence standing.
16. ROMAE AETERNAE. Roma-Victrix seated.
17. SAECVLI FEL. COS. II. A female figure holding a caduceus and a branch.
18. SAECVLI FRVGIF. COS. II. Genius standing naked, with radiated head; in his right hand, a caduceus and ears of wheat; in his left, a rake.
19. SALVTI AVG. COS. II. Hygeia standing.
20. *Same legend.* Hygeia seated.
21. SPES AVG. COS. II. Hope.
22. SPES COS. II. Hope.
23. S. P. Q. R. P. P. OB C. S. within a garland.

This coin is in the cabinet of Vienna. It has the title of *Cæsar* on the obverse. Another given by Vaillant has the title of *Augustus*.

24. VICT. AVG. COS. II. Victory marching, or standing inscribing a buckler, her left foot on a globe.
25. VIRTVTI AVG. COS. II. An armed figure holding the hasta and the parazonium.

Three brass medallions are known of this prince. The type of one is precisely similar to that of the remarkable gold coin, No. 4; the others have the legend FORTVNAE REDVCI. Fortune seated.

The first brass coins are:—

1. CONCORDIA. Concord seated, with her attributes.
2. COS. II. Æsculapius standing.
3. FELICITAS COS. II. Felicity standing.
4. FORT. REDVCI COS. II. Fortune seated.
5. MINER. PACIF. COS. II. Minervæ standing.
6. PROVID. AVG. COS. Providence standing.
7. SAECVLO FRVGIFERO. A naked male figure, with radiated head, standing, holding in his right hand ears of corn and a caduceus, and in his left a rake.
8. *Same legend.* A female figure, wearing the stola, standing, holding a caduceus and a cornucopiæ, her right foot on the prow of a vessel.

The second brass coins of Albinus are:—

COS. II. Æsculapius, with his attributes, standing.
FELICITAS II. Felicity standing, holding a caduceus.
FORT. REDVCI COS. II. Fortune seated.
SAECVLO FRVGIFERO COS. II. A genius, as on the large brass with this legend.

CARACALLA.

[A.D. 198 TO A.D. 217.]

CARACALLA, upon the death of his father, concluded a disadvantageous and inglorious peace with the Caledonians, and restored to them many of their forts. He soon quitted the island, and commenced a series of cruelties worthy of the son of Severus. He put to death all the physicians who had refused to attempt the life of his father, and included in the horrible proscription those who had been charged with his own and his brother's education, because they had dared to propose a reconciliation between them. The tried ministers of his father shared the same fate; and in the following year, the discord of the brothers ended in the death of Geta, who was slain by Caracalla in the arms of his mother. Another massacre followed of the friends of

Geta, and even the buffoons and gladiators who had contributed to the amusement of that unfortunate prince were involved in the common fate.* The career of Caracalla, the most active,

* Herodianus, lib. iv. c. 11. The tyrant did his utmost to blot out the memory of his brother, as Dion Cassius testifies, though Spartian is silent on the subject. In Sestini's "Descrizione del Museo Hedervariano," Firenze, 1828, will be found an account of some medallions of Caracalla and Geta, struck at Stratonicea and at Pergamus, *with the head of Geta erased*, as Sestini supposes, in consequence of a rescript of Caracalla. Mr. Birch, in a communication to the Numismatic Society (Num. Chronicle, vol. i. p. 194), remarks that it is not a little singular that the erasure should have been made on the money of remote Asiatic towns, while the coinage of the Imperial mint at Rome remained untouched. From this circumstance he is led to conclude that the erasure was effected by the time-serving and supple authorities of those cities, whose offence was the associating the brothers as *Augusti*, the coins bearing the effigy of Geta alone, or the mere title of Cæsar, remaining uninjured! Popular indignation appears to have alarmed the tyrant, who we are told allowed his brother after death to be styled "Divus," remarking "Sit Divus, dum non sit vivus:" the historian adds, "Denique eum inter divos retulit, atque ideo utcunque rediit cum forma in gratiam parricida;" an account which is verified by coins of Stratonicea, with a small head placed below the erased bust (or on the erasure), and the word ΘΕΟΥ. Besides this, the coins which bear the heads of Severus and Domna have stamped on them a small head, in countermark, and the words ΓΕΤ. ΘΕΟΥ, which leaves no doubt as to the meaning of the solitary word on the other. Specimens of these singular numismatic monuments are in the collection of the British Museum.

if not the most cruel of all the Roman tyrants, was marked by rapine, violence, and slaughter; and he finally fell by the hand of Macrinus, in the year of Rome 970 (A.D. 217).

It is proper to observe, that more than one emperor "assumed and polluted the respectable name of Antoninus," and that *Antoninus Pius* is found on the coins of Caracalla, and even on those of the depraved Elagabalus. The numismatist will not require to be reminded of this; but to the inexperienced the observation is necessary, because the occurrence of the name on the coins of these two emperors has sometimes led to an erroneous classification. The proper name of Caracalla was *Bassianus*, as is shown by the letter of Severus to Albinus, given by Capitolinus; and it was only on his being created Cæsar by his father, in the year of Rome 949 (A.D. 196), that he assumed the names of *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*,* which are found perpetually on his money.

Some authors have supposed that Caracalla was not the son of Severus by Domna, but the

* It is said, that he took these names because his father had dreamed that he who bore them would succeed him in the empire. It is well-known that *Caracalla* was a nickname bestowed upon him on account of his wearing a Gaulish garment.

commencement of Oppian's *Cynegetica*, which the poet dedicated to the tyrant, disproves this:—

> Αὐσονίου Ζηνὸς γλυκερὸν θάλος, Ἀντωνῖνε,
> Τὸν μεγάλη μεγάλῳ φιτύσατο Δόμνα Σεβήρῳ.
>
> Ausonii Jovis dulcis stirps, Antonine,
> Quem magna magno procreavit Domna Severo.

We have several coins of this prince relating to Britain. I commence with the large brass.

I.

Obverse. M. AVREL. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Pius Augustus.* Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICT. BRIT. TR. P. XIIII COS. III. *Victoriæ Britannicæ, Tribunitia Potestate decimum quartum, Consul tertium.* Victory, her left foot on a helmet, erecting a trophy, near which stands a captive; another captive bound, and seated on the ground.

Those who are familiar with Roman coins will recollect the peculiar shape of the *German* shield which appears on the coins of Domitianus. Two shields of the same shape are represented in the trophy on this coin; but it is difficult to determine if they were copied from actual specimens. Herodian says, the Britons carried a *narrow shield* (scutus angustus), and these are certainly of that shape.*

* Tacitus (Vit. Agricol. c. 36), says the Britons were armed with short shields and long swords; "ingentibus gladiis et

II.

Obverse. M. AVREL. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. A type similar to that on the preceding coin.

III.

Obverse. M. AVREL. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Two Victories attaching a buckler to a palm-tree, at the foot of which two captives are seated.

The same type occurs on a coin of Severus.

The middle brass coins of Caracalla with allusions to Britain are the following:—

I.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICT. BRIT. TR. P. XIIII. COS. III. *Victoriæ Britannicæ, Tribunitia Potestate decimum quartum, Consul tertium.* Victory inscribing a buckler attached to a palm-tree; her left foot resting on a helmet.

II.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. A similar type to that of the preceding coin.

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brevibus cetris:" and that the latter, though formidable weapons, when there was room to wield them, were blunt at the point "sine mucrone," and not fitted for a close engagement.

A middle brass coin of Caracalla, in the cabinet of Mr. Huxtable, has the *radiated* head of Caracalla, with the legend ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. The *reverse* is the same as the above.

His gold coins are:—

I.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Head of Caracalla laureated.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory marching, bearing a trophy in one hand, and holding a captive with the other.

II.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Head of Caracalla laureated.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory seated on a heap of arms.

His silver coins:—

I.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Caracalla to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. *Victoriæ Britannicæ.* Victory running to the right, holding a standard transversely with both hands.

II.

Obverse. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Caracalla.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory marching with garland and palm-branch.

GETA.

[A.D. 209 TO A.D. 212.]

THE fate of this unfortunate prince has been mentioned in the foregoing section. Although, as we are informed, he did not take a personal share in the expedition against the Caledonians, the senate appear to have considered him entitled to the surname of *Britannicus*, and struck coins in his honour. Of these there are several varieties. The large brass are:—

I.

Obverse. IMP. CAES. P. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. *Imperator Cæsar Publius Septimius Geta Pius Augustus.* Laureated head of Geta to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Victory seated on a heap of arms, inscribing a shield, which she rests on her knees.

II.

Obverse. IMP. CAES. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. Laureated head of Geta.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Two Victories suspending a circular buckler from the trunk of a palm-tree, at the foot of which two captives are seated.

A similar type occurs without the two captives.

III.

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. *Publius Septimius Geta Pius Augustus Britannicus.* Laureated head of Geta.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Victory, her left foot placed on a helmet, erecting a trophy, at the foot of which is a captive standing, and another seated on the ground, each having his hands tied behind his back.

IV.

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Geta.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Victory erecting a trophy, at the foot of which a captive is seated.

There is a similar type with the legend VICT. BRIT. P. M. TR. P. II. COS. II.

V.

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Geta.

Reverse. VICT. BRIT. TR. P. III. COS. II. *Victoriæ Brittannicæ, Tribunitia Potestate tertium, Consul iterum.* A type similar to No. I.

This coin was struck in the year that Severus died, and probably records the last successful encounter with the Britons of the north.

Other coins of Geta bear the legends VICTORIAE AVGVSTORVM—VICTORIAE AETERNAE AVGG. *(Augustorum)*, which may probably have allusion to events in Britain. On the first of these, Cara-

calla in a military dress, and Geta in the toga, stand, supporting between them a globe, while Victory holds a garland above their heads, a bound captive sitting at their feet; a type which seems to allude to the milder duties of Geta in Britain, while his father and brother were absent in the northern expedition. Another coin has Victory driving a biga, with VICTORIAE AVGG.

There is also a unique large brass coin which was purchased by Captain Smyth, at the sale of Mr. Willatt's cabinet:—

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS PIVS AVG. BRIT. *Publius Septimius Pius Augustus Britannicus.* Laureated bearded head to the right.

Reverse. ADVENTVS AVGVSTI. Geta on horseback to the left; his right hand raised aloft, his left holding a javelin; a helmeted soldier preceding him, bearing a vexillum.

Captain Smyth observes of this fine coin, "Though the legend of a medal has been aptly styled its soul, it is often deficient in affording entire satisfaction; and here is nothing to assist exact chronology. The device probably records the return of the prince from Britain, as corroborated by other types of 'Adventus,' shewing an equestrian figure of Geta, but without the foot soldier."*

* Descript. Catal. p. 200.

The second brass are:—

I.

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. *Publius Septimius Geta Pius Augustus Britannicus.* Laureated bearded head of Geta to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRITTANNICAE. Victory seated on shields, holding a palm-branch and a shield, which she rests on her knees.

II.

Obverse. P. SEPTIMIVS GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated and bearded head of Geta.

Reverse. VICT. BRIT. TR. P. III. COS. II. *Victoriæ Brittannicæ, Tribunitia Potestate tertium, Consul iterum.* Victory inscribing a buckler attached to a palm-tree, her left foot resting on a helmet.

Gold and silver:—

I.

Obverse. P. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Geta to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. *Victoriæ Brittannicæ.* Victory standing to the left, holding in her right hand a garland, and in her left a palm-branch.

This type occurs in silver, and also in gold, if we may credit Mediobarba.

II.

Obverse. P. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Geta to the right.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory marching and bearing a trophy.

III.

Obverse. P. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT. Laureated head of Geta.

Reverse. VICTORIAE BRIT. Victory standing holding a branch and the hasta.

Observations on Roman Coin Moulds, discovered in England and in France.

[The papers which follow contain many interesting particulars relative to the coin moulds, principally of the age of Severus and his sons, found at various times in England and on the continent; and those of MM. Poey d'Avant and Hiver throw so much light on this subject, hitherto perplexing to numismatists, that an apology for their appearance in this work will not be needed. To the observations of the learned Frenchmen are appended the remarks of my friend, the Rev. J. B. Reade, who, by microscopic examination of the clay composing the moulds discovered at Lingwell, has proved that they *were formed on the spot.*]

I.*

"HAVING noticed in Camden's 'Britannia,'† an account of some clay moulds for fabricating Roman coins, found about the beginning of the last century at Edington, in the county of Somerset, and understanding, from persons in the neighbourhood, that they still continue to be discovered there, I was induced, some time since, to go thither with a party of friends; and we were fortunate enough to be directed to a spot, where, in less than an hour's search, we picked up several hundred of them.

"The field in which they were found, is a meadow that bears no marks of ever having been ploughed; which accounts for the moulds remaining so long undiscovered. It is situated at the north edge of Polden Hill, at about a quarter of a mile to the north of the village of Chilten. We were led to this particular spot, by a person who had some time before cut through a bed of them in digging a drain. They were lying promiscuously scattered over a space about four feet

* From the Archæologia, vol. xiv.

† Gough's Camden, vol. i. p. 71. A reference is made to Aubrey's MSS., but I searched for it to no purpose, amongst his papers preserved at the Museum at Oxford; as his MSS., however, are not arranged, I may have overlooked it.

square, and from six inches to a foot below the surface of the ground.

"On carefully clearing away the earth which adhered to the moulds, we perceived that we had a much greater variety, as well as a larger number, than had been elsewhere discovered. Such moulds have been heretofore met with in small quantities at Ryton in Shropshire,* and at Lingivel in Yorkshire,† and great numbers of them at Lyons in France; but all these appear to have been of the Emperor Severus, Julia, his wife, or Antoninus, *i. e.* Caracalla, their son; whereas, in our collection, there are not only numerous impressions of these, but also of Geta, Macrinus, Elagabalus, Alexander Severus, Maximinus, Maximus, Plautilla, Julia Paula, and Julia Mamæa; besides a very considerable number of reverses. Most of these moulds are in such perfect preservation, as to admit of good casts being made of them in sulphur, coloured with vermillion, some of which, together with a few of the moulds themselves, I now send for your satisfaction, and that of the Antiquarian Society, if you should think this letter worth communicating.

"In the accounts that have been published

* Phil. Trans. vol. xliv. p. 557. † Ibid. vol. xxiv. p. 2139.

respecting them, in England, there is very little more than the bare mention of their discovery, and of the use to which they were applied; but in the "*Histoire de l'Academie des Inscriptions*," tom. iii. p. 218, there is a very well written paper on the subject, entitled, "*Observations sur l'Usage de quelque Moules Antiques de Monnoies Romaines, decouverts à Lyons*," the principal part of which I insert in the note appended to this article, as being extremely curious in itself, and not accessible to every lover of antiquity: contenting myself, to avoid repetition, with briefly observing, that the object of the paper is to shew, that these moulds were the instruments of illegal coiners, which supposition is rendered very probable by the argument there adduced, and is still further confirmed by the following circumstances attending this last discovery of moulds at Edington.

"Though we have frequent instances, as in the moulds at Lyons, of a head on one side, and on the other a reverse, yet it often happens that there are reverses on both sides, and these entirely different from each other; which, as both impressions must have been made at the same instant, whilst the clay was moist, can only be accounted for on the supposition that the coins of several emperors were fabricated at one and

the same time, and this, it is evident, could only take place in the hands of illegal coiners.

" The discovery of the wedge of base metal, found together with the moulds at Lyons, affords certainly a strong presumption that they were designed for the fabrication of base coins; but it is no more than a presumption: that such, however, was the use made of these which are in our possession, cannot well be doubted, since we not only found, as at Lyons, a lump of metal, but likewise, in one instance, the very coin itself, lodged in its mould, and formed like the lump of a white metal resembling silver, but which, upon examination, proves to be principally tin.

" The nature of these moulds, and the unlawful purpose to which they were applied, being thus ascertained, it is natural to enquire whether we are likely to derive any useful knowledge from the great variety of figures and inscriptions found upon them? To this I am reluctantly obliged to answer, that, in my opinion, we are not. The reverses of coins have frequently been of the greatest service, by illustrating doubtful points of history, and even by bringing to light circumstances and events unknown to us before; but I do not see how the reverses on moulds ever can be made this use of, since it does not apply, with certainty, any given reverse to its proper front,

unless it should happen that we are authorised by the coin itself; in which case the additional testimony of the mould is not wanted.* This consideration has deterred me from troubling you with the legends, or any particular description of the fronts and reverses. I cannot, however, help mentioning my hope that, though of great use in elucidating general history, these moulds, found at, and near Edington, in such vast quantities, and in such various places, may possibly hereafter contribute towards clearing up the ancient topography of that particular neighbourhood."

NOTE.

[*Translation.*]

"The substance of these moulds is a baked white clay. Their shape is flat and terminated by a circumference an inch in breadth. Their thickness is two *lignes* at the edges, and within this space it is diminished, on one or both sides of the mould, by the depth of the coin, the type of which is there impressed. We say on one or both sides of the mould, because the greater number have, on one side, the impression of a head, and on the other that of a reverse, while some of them are impressed on one side only. Each mould has a notch or indentation on one part of its edge, which reaches to the vacant space formed by the body of the impressed coin; and as the flat shape and equality of the circumference of all the moulds adapts them for joining together in such a relative arrangement

* See note † page 77.

as to bring the types of heads opposite to those of the reverses, of which an impression is preserved, and in a position where all the notches meet each other, it is at once apparent, that the furrow made by these indentations serves as a jet or casting-hole to the group, or rouleau, formed by the junction of moulds, for casting the metal intended for the coins.

"An ingot of debased silver, found at the same time and place as these moulds, the green rust of which indicated the large proportion of copper intermixed with it, leaves no room to doubt that they had been used for casting silver rather than gold money. It appears from this description, and from the use the ancients made of these moulds, that their mode of making casts was very much like ours: but what is peculiarly worthy of notice is the quality of earth they employed, which was so excellent, and so well prepared, that after 1400 years, their moulds are perfect enough to receive several castings."

After producing many arguments to prove that the only legal method of coining among the Romans, was with the hammer, the author asks:—"What can we suppose these moulds to be, if they were not used by those forgers who superadded debasement of the standard to counterfeit casting, by largely increasing the proportion of alloy?—as is evident from the quality of the ingot discovered at the same time, which coincides with the system of forgery alluded to in the Theodosian code, in the following terms:—'Si quis nummum falsâ fusione formaverit, universas ejus facultates fisco addici præcipimus, ut in monetis tantum nostris cudendæ pecuniæ studium frequentetur.—If any one shall fabricate coin by false casting, we command all his property to be given up to the treasury, in order that the business of coining money may be carried on only in our own mints.'

"Hence arises that remarkable difference of value which is often observed in many coins of the same reverse, of the same epoch, and under the same emperor. This way of counterfeiting money was more general than that of plating, from the time of Pliny, who remarks, that it was practised with such

dexterity, that it was so difficult to distinguish a piece of money which had been coined from one cast in sand by a skilful forger, that this knowledge had become a particular art, and that some of these pieces were so well fabricated, that the curious often gave many good coins to get possession of a false one. The decline of the art of engraving, which, under Septimius Severus, was already very considerable, and the alteration which he had introduced in the standard of money, were more and more favourable to forgers and false coiners, by rendering their deceptions more easy; so that the number of the moulds which have been discovered at Lyons, at different periods, leads us to think that these false coiners must have existed in great numbers. Indeed, at length they became so numerous, even in the cities where there were prefects of the mint, and among the officers and workmen employed therein, that they were able to form, at Rome, under the Emperor Aurelian, a little army, who, for fear of the punishment with which they were threatened, revolted against him, and killed, at the first onset, 7000 of the regular troops."

II.*

"THE Roman coin moulds which have, at different times, been found in France in great numbers together, and particularly at Lyons, have exercised the curiosity of almost every antiquary. At their head must be ranked Count de Caylus, who has treated the subject at length. Opinions are divided with regard to them; some considering them the work of forgers, others thinking

* From the Revue Numismatique Française.

that the Romans themselves, at certain epochs, moulded their money; and especially about the time when the quality of the silver began to be greatly altered.*

"I have drawn two of these moulds to illustrate my observations: and I hope to be able to resolve, or at least to clear up, some difficulties which have hitherto attended the subject. They were obtained from a collection, discovered some years ago, on the heights of Fourvieres, near Lyons; thirty-four of them came into my possession. It seems that there was a greater number of them; and that this same discovery is the subject of Grivaud de la Vincelle's work, entitled 'A Collection of Ancient Monuments of Gaul.'

"No. 1 is, by the obverse, one of Soemias; inscription, IVLIA SOEMIAS AVG. Reverse PONT. TR. P. VI. COS.† Pallas, standing, holding in one hand an inverted spear, and victory in the other.

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* *i. e.* after the reigns of the Antonines. There had, however, been occasional reductions in the standard of the Roman silver, long previous to the reign of Antoninus Pius. The Denarii of Mark Antony have about 10 grains of alloy in 56 of pure silver, while those of Augustus have about 2 grains only of alloy; this alone was sufficient to cause that mutiny of the triumvir's soldiers, to which Pliny alludes.—*J. Y. A.*

† The legend of the reverse here illustrates the observations which follow hereafter; the pontifical and tribunitian record can have nothing to do with a denarius of Soemias: it doubt-

"No. 3 has the head of Caracalla laureated, with the inscription ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. without any reverse.

"These moulds are of earth, which has acquired by fire a dark red colour, and the consistency of brick. The paste of which they are made is rather fine.

"It is easy to understand the way in which the ancients used these moulds to cast their money. They first worked up some clay, so as to form a tablet flat on both sides, and about two *lignes** thick on the border, where it was rounded. A piece of money was applied to each side, which of course left a hollow impression in the clay. The tablet intended to form the end of the pile, had an impression on one side only. Care was taken to place these tablets on one another, so that the reverse corresponded with its head; their misplacement would have produced some

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less belongs to a coin of Severus or Caracalla; certainly not of her son Elagabalus, who held the tribunitian power but five times. Of course, it is evident that, in the present instance, the reverse of the *mould* could never appear as the reverse of a *coin*, having the head of Soemias: at the same time, it is equally evident that the reverse of a mould, as inapplicable to the head of Soemias as the present one, might, by a wrong arrangement of the series, produce, what is popularly called, a blundered reverse.—*J. Y. A.*

* The French *ligne* is the twelfth part of an inch nearly.

of those wrong reverses, of which the instances are not few on ancient coins.* Placed on one another so as to form a roll or cylinder, they were luted together with soft clay, that closed all outlets. De Caylus speaks of a roll, consisting of eight tablets, and which was not a complete one. One is also mentioned in the History of the Academy of Inscriptions, which must be in the Cabinet de Médailles, at Paris, but the author, M. Mahudel, does not indicate the number of tablets. M. Hennin, in his excellent 'Manuel de Numismatique,' expresses his surprise that on the moulds which exhibit a head and reverse, the reverse does not correspond with the head: it would be more surprising if it were otherwise, and M. Hennin's usual penetration is here at fault. The tablet at the termination of each pile, having only either a head or a reverse, it is plain that the next in succession must have either the reverse or the head corresponding, and so on. If each obverse had its corresponding reverse on the same mould, the

* These coins with blundered or inapplicable reverses, were at one time numismatic puzzles, and led to much false reasoning. They so often occur at this period of the Roman empire, that the antiquary will do well to examine carefully all specimens, before he ventures on any speculations concerning them.—*J. Y. A.*

whole pile must be a repetition of the same mould, to produce the intended impressions: but this is contrary to observation.

"The piles, when duly arranged, were subjected to fire to receive the necessary hardness; and it only then remained to pour the melted metal into the channel formed by the small notch, cut on the edge of each mould. It is not known whether the moulds were broken in order to get out the pieces thus formed, or whether there was another process of extracting them: it is probable, however, that the moulds served more than once. Lastly, the jet of metal attaching to each coin was carefully taken off.—De Caylus says, that he used one of these moulds, which he had properly cleaned, and obtained from it some well formed pieces.*

"Were these moulds used by forgers, or by the moneyers of the empire? This question has been made the subject of several dissertations; Caylus embraces the latter opinion, and endeavours to prove that the Romans must have equally used coinage and founding, for the formation of their gold and silver money.† In support of this

* This experiment, which has been repeated by the Rev. J. B. Reade, and others, shews that the same pile of moulds might be used for several castings.—*J. Y. A.*

† There does not appear to be any evidence that the Romans ever cast their *gold* coins.—*J. Y. A.*

opinion, we must observe that it is precisely to the period when the quality of the money was singularly altered, that these moulds belong; so far at least, as they have hitherto been discovered.* On the other hand, it is incontestable, that much of the money of the reigns of Septimius Severus, and his successors, is cast; for were their coins attributed to forgers, then, in this case, the quantity of bad money would, perhaps, have exceeded that of the good.† M. Hennin, in his manual, does not pronounce a decided opinion: he supposes that the forgers may have been tacitly allowed by government. This opinion has something specious in it; but it is an unsupported conjecture. Grivaud de la Vincelle goes farther, and maintains that it must be the workmen of the Mint at Lyons, who carried on this clandestine mintage. The latter, as well as Gerard Jacob Kolb, M. Champollion-Figeac, and Mangeart, think that these moulds belonged to forgers. The first of these, whose

* It is singular that among the moulds discovered at Lingwell Gate, was one of Antoninus Pius. It was presented to the Numismatic Society by the Rev. J. B. Reade. See note *, page 82.—*J. Y. A.*

† It is remarkable that the plated forgeries of the times of the Cæsars are, in some instances, much more numerous than genuine coins; witness the denarii of Claudius, and those of Domitilla.—*J. Y. A.*

opinion is much more decisive than that of the other two, endeavours also to prove, that this counterfeit issue must have taken place only under Alexander Severus.* But this point—of no great importance to my present subject—does not appear sufficiently clear.

"The opinion of these learned antiquaries does not seem to me sufficiently fortified with reasons; I think it well to endeavour, in a few words, to make up for their silence. The strongest reason, in my opinion, for believing that these moulds must have been used by forgers, is, that it

* The fact, that there are many ancient coins of Alexander Severus which appear to have been cast in moulds, is not sufficient to justify such an imputation. I am of opinion, that the practice of casting pieces of an inferior quality, was first resorted to either in the reign of S. Severus or Caracalla, of both of whom the specimens are the most numerous; though even this circumstance would not be conclusive: for it is not improbable, that an emperor, who resorted to such means of false coining, would occasionally use the coins of his predecessors, upon whom the odium would fall in the event of their being detected by his subjects. Detection, however, was not an easy matter; the quality of the coins could only be ascertained by the *numularii* or money-changers, who, in their turn, would be puzzled to pronounce on the fineness of money, the quality and standard of which was, in all probability, never publicly announced by the emperor. Complimentary legends on Roman coins must be regarded with caution; but it may be mentioned, that Alexander Severus is styled, on some of his money, RESTITVTOR MONETÆ.—*J. Y. A.*

appears certain, that the dies which coiners used, were broken as soon as they were no longer wanted. A very small number of these dies have come down to us, and yet their number must have been immense, considering the extreme variety of the impressions on money.* Is it supposable, that they would have destroyed the metal dies, and preserved the earthen moulds, the destruction of which was far more easy?

"I foresee an objection which will not fail to be raised; since we allow, it will be said, that the makers of money were able to make use of moulds, how happens it, if they were of metal, that not one has reached us? We conceive the discovery of one of these metal moulds would greatly simplify the question. The small number of dies that have been found, makes it not unlikely that there existed also metallic moulds; besides, it is very credible, that the destruction of these moulds must have been more particu-

* There is reason to believe, that, in almost every instance, the dies were engraved punches, which yielded to every blow of the hammer; hence the very uncommon occurrence of two coins from the same die. When the punch thus used ceased to perform its office, the mutilated die was perhaps effaced, and another engraved upon the same piece of metal. Still, as M. Poey d' Avant suggests, the dies may have been destroyed by the imperial command, in the presence of the Mint-master. —*J. Y. A.*

larly looked to, since the use of them would have been much more easy than that of dies; and the forgers, who swarmed at that period, would not have failed to use them, had they fallen into their hands.

"These forgers profited by the reduction of the quality of silver, to carry on their criminal craft. This point seems to me evident; their profits became more certain, and their productions were so much the more easy to pass the more difficult it was to distinguish them from genuine money. Lyons, being the seat of a mint, the forgers would have established themselves there in preference. Aurelius Victor relates that their number had increased to such a degree in Italy, that under Aurelian, they formed a body of sufficient importance openly to withstand this prince, and cause him in one encounter a loss of nearly 7000 regular troops. I therefore maintain, that moulds of baked earth of Roman coins were used by forgers; but, in order to reconcile all opinions, I allow that these works were secretly authorised by the Emperors, who, involved in debt, in consequence of their luxury and debaucheries, considered all means good that tended to fill the coffers of the state: this would not, however, explain why the moulds were not destroyed.

"F. Poey d' Avant, de Melle."

III.*

ACCOUNT OF A MANUFACTORY FOR MONEY, DISCOVERED AT DAMERY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MARNE, 1830.

"THE examination of the question, whether the moulds for Roman money found near Lyons, had been used by forgers, or by the officers of government, an inquiry in which M. Poey d' Avant has lately been engaged, after the Academy of Inscriptions, and almost all the antiquaries of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, gives a new value to the discovery now under consideration; and in fact, though it may not decide the question, it at least throws a new light upon it.

"During the winter of 1829-1830, some excavations made in a very small part of the site of the park of the old castle of Damery, a town near Epernay, built on the ruins of Bibé, the first station on the military road from Rheims to Beauvais, brought to view, at the depth of several feet, under a heap of ashes charcoal and broken tiles, the remains of extensive buildings demolished by fire, having evidently served for

* From the Revue Numismatique Française, tom. i.

baths and a moneyer's workshop. In some adjoining apartments, there were found, in a short space of time, several vases full of coins.

"The first vase contained at least 2000 pieces of base silver, more than 1500 of which bore the head of Postumus; the remainder presented the series which is generally found from the elder Philip down to that tyrant: the only rare piece was one of the younger Macrianus; the reverses, although very various for the coins of Postumus, were all common; lastly, the fabric was bad, and the metal much alloyed: and those with the impression of Postumus were comparatively more defective than the others.

"Another vase contained:—

"1. A silver coin of Antoninus.

"2. Five small brass, of the money of Treves, with the types of Rome and Constantinople.

"3. 100 other small brass, of the money of Treves, Lyons, Arles, Aquileia, Sisseg (P. S), and Rome; with the impressions of Constans and Constantius, sons of Constantine, and having for those three emperors, the three same reverses, viz., FELIX TEMP. REPARATIO; a warrior giving his hand to a small figure—same inscription, the emperor standing on a galley—VICTORIAE DD. AVGG. NN. Victories presenting crowns.

"4. About 3900 pieces in small brass of the

fourth size, all in perfect preservation, and all with the impressions of the same emperors, Constans and Constantius, and with the unusual reverse of a Phœnix on a globe, placed on a rock, with the inscription FELIX TEMP. REPARATIO.

"The greater part of these pieces bore on the exergue the mark of the money of Treves, several that of the money of Lyons, and one only bore the exergual letters SIS, attributed in like manner to the money of Sisseg. The types were various. Nevertheless, and in the face of these formal indications of manufacture in places far distant from one another, the identity of the alloy and of the impression of these 3900 coins was such, and their preservation so perfect and so equal, that the thought forces itself upon us, that they had been made in the same manufactory, and that they had never quitted it to be put into circulation. This supposition, justified also by the uniformity of the impressions, seems fully confirmed by the discovery in an adjoining apartment, of a money manufactory in full activity.

"There, under a heap of ashes and tiles, were found together, shears, and the remains of other iron instruments, suitable for the making of money; and several collections of moulds of baked earth, still containing the pieces which had

been cast in them, and the ingot formed by the superfluous metal. These moulds, not so thick, and of a coarser earth than those communicated by M. Poey d' Avant, were in other respects entirely similar. Like those found at Fourvieres, they were moulded from the money which they were intended to reproduce, by pressing the models between disks of worked clay of larger diameter, in order to form ledges, and were then placed one upon another, so that with the exception of the first and last, they received on each face the stamp of the obverse and the reverse of a piece. The cavities and the impressions being obtained by this process both easily and accurately, the disks composing the moulds were notched, in order to form a passage for the fused metal; they were then hardened in the fire, replaced on one another, notch over notch, and in the same order as when moulded, and lastly, luted with clay, so as to form a cylinder similar to that found at Fourvieres, and described by M. de Caylus.

"But the last operation that preceded the founding escaped the notice of that antiquary. The piles of moulds were combined in threes,* placed

* It may be observed that a double and not a triple pile was used at Lingwell Gate, as appears from the drawing which I have received from the Rev. S. Sharp, of Wakefield.—*J. Y. A.*

at the side of one another, and in contact, so that the notches, for the introduction of the metal, communicated with the hollow space formed by the three cylindrical surfaces when applied to one another; which space, therefore, served as a general channel for the melted matter. Such was the disposition of the groups of moulds found in the ruins of Bibé. The ingot drawn in illustration of these observations, is one of those formed by the superabundant metal in the channel. It is bristled with three longitudinal lines of twelve points each, more or less prominent, these points being the remains of the ramification of metal that entered by the notches of the twelve moulds, in each of the three piles constituting the group; and thus thirty-six pieces were cast at once. These observations, M. de Caylus was not enabled to make. There is no doubt but these moulds, as well as those much more perfect, found at Fourvieres, were used for more than one casting. With a little care, the pieces were taken out without breaking the moulds; and M. de Caylus made an experiment on the latter, which even some of those found in the ruins of Bibé might bear, although they had undergone, at the time of the conflagration of this Roman establishment, the action of the most violent fire. The moulds found at various

times at Fourvieres, were of the types of Septimius Severus, Julia Domna, Caracalla, Geta, Soemias, Mæsa, and Alexander Severus.

"Only thirty-two moulds were found uninjured in the ruins of the work at Bibé, and these are scarcely the tenth part of the whole. Three bear the head of Caracalla, four that of the elder Philip, and twenty-five that of Postumus with nine varieties of reverses.

"The following is the description in detail of the impressions on the moulds preserved in the cabinets of M. Lucas Desaint, of Rheims, and M. Thiers, with the number of duplicates.

CARACALLA.

ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. GERM. Crowned head (*large size*).

Rev. VENVS VICTRIX. Venus Victrix, standing, having a figure of Victory on her right hand, and the hasta transversely in her left; her elbow leaning on a buckler.

Rev. SECVRITAS PERPETVA. Minerva standing.

Rev. CARITAS MVTVA AVGG. Two hands joined.

PHILIP THE ELDER.

IMP. PHILIPPVS AVGG.

Rev. ÆTERNITAS AVGG. A figure on an elephant.

Rev. S.ECVLVM NOVVM. Jupiter in a temple.

Rev. FIDES EXERCITVS. Four military standards.

Rev. SÆCVLARES AVGG. Hippopotamus.

POSTUMUS.

IMP. C. POSTVMVS P. F. AVG.

Rev. FELICITAS AVG. A woman standing, her right hand on a long caduceus, and holding in her left a cornucopia. (4 *dupl.*)

Rev. MONETA AVG. Moneta standing. (2 *dupl.*)
Rev. LÆTITIA AVG. Galley. (2 *dupl.*)
Rev. SÆCVLI FELICITAS. The emperor in military costume, holding a globe, and the hasta transversely. (7 *dupl.*)
Rev. FIDES EXERCIT. Two ensigns. (3 *dupl.*)
Rev. HERCVLI DEVSONIENSI. Hercules standing, leaning on his club. (3 *dupl.*)
Rev. HERCVLI PACIFERO. Hercules standing, holding a branch.
Rev. NEPTVNO COMITI. Neptune standing.
Rev. DIANA LVCIFERA. Diana.
Rev. Without impression.

"We may suppose that the broken or dispersed moulds reproduced the different impressions of the silver pieces found in great numbers in the apartments adjoining the workshop, pieces which must in great measure have proceeded from the active casting that was going on. This supposition seems especially to hold for the 1500 silver pieces of Postumus, in which the bad alloy and defective make were particularly remarkable. With respect to the 3900 small brass, with the reverse of the phœnix, it is maintained, that they were struck in the manufactory of Bibé, although bearing the marks of the money of Trèves and Lyons. And indeed it is conceived, that in those times of confusion, the money of the emperors must have followed their camps, and been continually within reach of their residence. The simultaneous discovery under the same ruins of

these small brass coins, with the effigies of Constans and Constantius, and of moulds still enclosing the money of Caracalla, Philip, and Postumus, which had been cast in them, proves besides this very important fact, that the latter had been made *under the reign of those two first emperors only.* Independently of these considerable stores, there have been frequently found at Damery, isolated pieces; but none of those submitted to my inspection was after the reign of the sons of Constantine, the period to which we must assign the total ruin of Bibé by the Franks, who then were making incursions into Belgic Gaul.

" The following conclusions result from these discoveries, discoveries which we have endeavoured minutely to describe, and which are of more importance to the critic than those of Fourvieres:—

" 1. That if, according to the testimony of Pliny, forgers were the first to adopt the method of casting, to counterfeit ancient money, the emperors from the time of Postumus availed themselves of this process to reproduce secretly, and in metal of bad alloy, the money of their predecessors.

" 2. That it is to these reproductions (clandestine) we must attribute the enormous quantity

of silver money, of inferior quality and defective make, with the impressions of the Cæsars, from the time of Septimius Severus, down to Postumus.

" Lastly, they explain the total want of silver money, from Victorinus to Dioclesian, and the great rarity of that of the lower empire.

" In fact, it results, from these discoveries, that under the reigns of the Cæsars, Constans, and Constantius, there were cast, in a mint established at Bibé, large quantities of money, with the stamp of the emperors who had reigned from Caracalla to Postumus; and that this manufactory, situated in the heart of a town, and near public baths, did not belong to forgers, but was for the imperial money; in which copper money was struck with the die of the reigning emperors, and the silver money of the ancient Cæsars, still more adulterated than the original pieces, was reproduced by founding. Hence the possibility that the reigning emperor did not strike silver money with his die, nor maintain faithfully the quality of the small quantity which he issued; since at the same time that he threw into circulation the quantity of specie necessary for civil and commercial transactions, by means of ancient money secretly reproduced, he diminished its intrinsic value. It was besides

evident that the small number of silver pieces struck with the die of the Cæsars, from the time of Dioclesian down to the destruction of the Western Empire, could not satisfy the wants of the public; and that even in those disastrous times, the money of the former Cæsars had continued current during that period, but, disappearing in the continual concealments that took place in consequence of war and endless ravages, the emperors, to their great profit, clandestinely reproduced it, instead of multiplying specie of good standard, struck with their own die. We conceive, then, that having the choice, they reproduced in preference money, the quality of which had been reduced previously; and thus all the moulds discovered, bear the head of Septimius Severus who had altered the money first, and of his successors down to Postumus, who had all followed his example; for though it is easy to discover, by mere inspection, whether the silver of any money be pure or not, it is impossible to judge, by this means, of the quantity of adulteration.

"It had long been remarked, that there was a great inequality in the degree of alteration (or reduction) of the money struck at the same time, and with the mark of the same emperor. We cannot now doubt that such differences

are the consequence of these fraudulent reproductions.

"And thus, if the emperors punished the alteration of the money as a sacrilege, it was certainly with the view of securing to themselves the monopoly of this shameful source of profit.

"HIVER."

IV.*

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ROMAN COIN-MOULDS FOUND AT LINGWELL-GATE, NEAR WAKEFIELD, IN THE YEARS 1697, 1706, 1820, and 1830. BY THE REV. J. B. READE, M.A., F.R.S.

"IT was my design, in a former paper,† to state, in few words, the present position of the question which has been raised, as to the origin and use of Roman coin-moulds, and also to suggest an expedient for its solution. As regards the formation of the moulds, it is supposed either that they were sent from Rome,—or that they were made of sand which had been brought to the place where they are found,—or that they were made of the sand and clay of the spot; and each of these opinions has able advocates. As regards

* From the Numismatic Chronicle, vol. i.

† Numismatic Journal, vol. ii. p. 58.

the metallic currency which these moulds were designed to furnish, it is supposed that it either proceeded wholly from the clandestine operation of forgers,—or that the authorities countenanced this illicit extension of public money, and availed themselves of the supply,—or, that under the express sanction of the senate, the colonial soldiers were hereby provided with lawful coin of the realm. Here also, as before, we might support these different views by important documents which have been laid before learned societies. When, however, such and so many conflicting statements are brought before us, it immediately strikes us, notwithstanding the allowed skill of the debaters, that they cannot all be true; while, at the same time, the ability with which such different positions are maintained, renders it very difficult to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Under these circumstances, an appeal to facts appears to be our only resource.

"With regard then to the origin of these moulds, the means by which I propose to prove generally, that they were made on or near the spot where they are from time to time discovered, has especial reference to the extensive and interesting series which has been found at Lingwell-Gate. In the course of an enquiry into the solid materials which constitute the ashes of plants,

and of which silica is a very important one, I observed that the minute and beautiful organization which this substance exhibits, is not easily disturbed by pressure, in consequence of its extreme minuteness, while, from the very nature of the material, it is necessarily indestructible by heat. Hence, under the expectation of finding other traces of siliceous structure, I was led to the examination of silica as it enters into the different strata which form the crust of the earth; and thus the siliceous particles constituting the chief mass of Roman coin-moulds was subjected to microscopic examination. Passing by many observations, which would readily present themselves on the nature of this mode of investigation, I proceed to state, that the discovery of more than one species of well known *Fossil Infusoria*, of the genus *Navicula*, in the sand of some of the coin-moulds, seemed to point out a new, but apparently effectual expedient, for enabling us, without much risk of error, to assign the moulds in question to their proper locality. For, should it appear upon subsequent examination, that the common soil, or sand of the field in which the moulds were found, is characterised by siliceous shields of similar infusoria, then it would be the most natural and obvious conclusion, that the Roman coin-moulds

turned up by the plough at Lingwell-Gate, were made on the spot, and of the soil where they were found. A recent journey to Yorkshire gave me an opportunity of investigating, and of verifying this curious speculation; and I can now state that the sand of the field, which I have carefully examined, is marked by the presence of the infusoria of the coin-moulds. The general form of these animalcules is elliptical, having a major axis of about the $\frac{1}{100}$ of an inch, and the length of the major and minor axis, in the proportion of nearly 6 to 1: there are also about 100 minute stripes at right angles to two parallel and central longitudinal lines; and at each extremity, and in the middle of these lines, there is a small circular orifice. It appears, from a memoir by Professor Ehrenberg, that these infusoria are widely diffused; and when they occur in masses, or layers, the aggregation receives the name of *tripoli*, and is largely used for purposes of practical utility; for, as Professor Ehrenberg remarks, 'The soldier cleans his arms with tripoli, the worker in metal, the locksmith, and the engraver, polish with infusoria, which also *serve for moulds* in foundries.' For this latter purpose, we shall not be disposed to doubt that they were used at Lingwell-Gate.

"The second main point in this inquiry, pre-

sents greater difficulty than the first. But here also, no small advantage may be gained, by a comparison of the different local circumstances which are connected with the most recent discoveries of these moulds in this country and on the continent: I allude to the discoveries at Lingwell-Gate, in the county of York, and at Damery in the department of Marne. Of the discovery at the latter place, a very elaborate account has been furnished by M. Hiver, Procureur du Roi at Orleans, in the Revue de la Numismatique Française, No. 3, Mai et Juin. But as a translation of this memoir is inserted in the present number of the Numismatic Chronicle, it will suffice to state that the facts detailed and established by M. Hiver, necessarily lead us to the following important conclusion:—viz. that under the reigns of the Cæsars, Constans and Constantius, and immediately prior to the ruin of Bibé by the Franks, who were then making incursions into Belgic Gaul, there were cast, by means of moulds, in a mint established at Bibé, large quantities of money, with the type of the emperors who had reigned from Caracalla to Postumus; and, that this manufactory, situated in the heart of a town, and adjoining the public baths, did not belong to forgers, but was for the imperial money; in which copper money was

struck with the die of the reigning emperors, and the silver money of the ancient Cæsars was reproduced, not in copper, but in base silver, from the moulds.

"If now we refer to the very different circumstances which are connected with the discovery at Lingwell-Gate, we shall find that the clandestine operation of forgers stands in striking contrast with the recognised and open proceedings of the constituted authorities at Bibé. Concealment here takes the place of publicity; and the selected spot is no longer in the centre of a town, but in the heart of a forest; and at a distance from the main road, instead of near public baths. The money, also, now produced, and which, in some instances, is still remaining in the moulds, was not of largely alloyed silver, as at Bibé, but of copper; and since, at this period of the empire, mere copper denarii would be worse than useless, there can be no doubt that the skill of the forgers would supply a coating of silver, before putting them into circulation.

"On the whole, therefore, it seems to amount almost to a certainty, that the moulds were made on, or near, the spot where they are from time to time discovered, and they were used in common by forgers, and by the Triumviri Monetales; by the former at Lingwell-Gate, for the

purpose of procuring a private supply of counterfeit money; and by the latter at Bibé, for the purpose of filling the exhausted coffers of the state with a debased coinage of the ancient Cæsars. Thus, in each case, it is evident that, in those degenerate days, both kings and subjects acted out, in practice, what in the Augustan age was confined to words:—

> ' O cives, cives, quærenda pecunia primum est,
> Virtus post nummos.'—*Hor.*"

A few years since, another discovery of moulds was made during some excavations at Castor in Northamptonshire, the Durobrivæ of Antoninus. Engravings of specimens, together with the apparatus for casting, will be found in a work by Mr. T. Artis.* They offer, however, no peculiarities, and are merely mentioned here for the purpose of shewing that casting was extensively used at this period of the Roman empire.

I had long been of opinion that many of the denarii of the time of Severus, as well as the small brass of a later period preserved to our times, were cast coins, though age had helped

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* " The Durobrivæ of Antoninus identified, &c." atlas folio.

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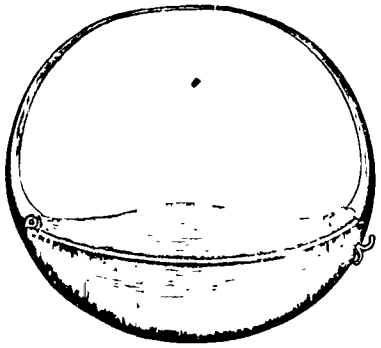
to obliterate nearly all traces of the mould. The preceding papers show that these conjectures were well-founded. In the British Museum are several clay-moulds, bearing impressions from the very common and abundant types of the Constantine family. The place of their discovery is not known.



Bronze vessel, containing gold and silver coins of Roman Emperors from Nero to Hadrian, found in the crevice of a rock, at Thorngrafton, near Hexham, in Northumberland, in the year 1837.

POSTUMUS.

THE coins of this usurper are often discovered in immense numbers in France, and are perpetually turned up by the plough and the spade in England. It is very probable that his rule extended to Britain, and that some of his money was struck in the province; but we have no proof of it. The large brass coin given by Vaillant,* and other numismatic writers, with the legend EXERCITVS YSC., and attributed by them to *Isca Silurum*,† are not admissible here: it is not unlikely that the YSC. as well as the VAC.,‡ attributed to the Vaccei in Hispania Tarraconensis,§ are blundered or ill-formed attempts at AVG.,‖ which really does occur on other coins of Postumus. There are several medallions of this usurper both in gold and in brass, some of which are of superior design and execution to the coins of the period.

* Num. Imp. Rom. tom. i. p. 191.

† "Ysca urbs Angliæ in regione Silulorum, in qua secunda Legio Augusti hyemabat, quæ fidem Postumo præstitit."

‡ Num. Imp. Rom. tom. i. p. 191.

§ Ibid. p. 192.

‖ Eckhel, Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vii. p. 442, considers these coins as blundered.

VICTORINUS.

THE small brass coins of Victorinus are found repeatedly in every part of England. Among them are frequently seen rude imitations, of most barbarous workmanship, which may be the attempts of incompetent and unauthorised persons in Britain. Coins of Victorina, the mother of this usurper, have been cited, but they are, doubtless, blundered pieces of her son.

The types of the coins of Victorinus are very numerous. The portrait is striking, and doubtless an authentic likeness, since it may be observed to vary but little even on what appear to be rude and hastily struck pieces. On the brass medallion in the national collection at Paris, it is perfectly identical with those upon the inferior pieces.

MARIUS.

THERE are coins of this usurper in gold, base silver, and small brass. They are noticed here, not on the supposition that any of them were minted in Britain, but simply to record the fact that, brief as his reign was, third brass coins of

Marius are occasionally discovered in England.* It is well-known that the legions of Gaul proclaimed him emperor after the murder of Victorinus at Cologne (A.D. 267). Historians say that he enjoyed this honour but three days, when he was assassinated; but Eckhel† is of opinion that his reign extended to several weeks, grounding it on the fact of the existence of many coins of Marius with different reverses, none of which, except the gold, are of great rarity. With great respect for such an authority, it may be supposed that it was the custom of the usurpers of this period to prepare money stamped with their effigy, *before their assumption of the purple;* and that on an appointed day the troops they commanded were assembled in some public place, the usurper announced his intentions, and showers of the newly-prepared coins were thrown among them.‡

* Specimens were found among a vast number of coins of the lower empire, discovered in the Sand-hills at Deal a few years since, and now in the possession of Mr. Rolfe of Sandwich; and in the Numismatic Journal (vol. i. p. 132) is an account of the discovery, near Swansea, of many coins of the period, among which were a few of Marius. Several of them were preserved by Mr. Francis for the Swansea Museum.

† Doct. Num. Vet. vol. vii. p. 454.

‡ See the remarks under Allectus.

TETRICUS.

THIS usurper, of whom and of his son there are coins in the three metals, those of brass being discovered in great numbers, both in England and on the continent, was elected emperor by the legions of Gaul (A. D. 267). He held the reins of government until the succession of Aurelian, when he voluntarily resigned them to that emperor, A. D. 272. His reign doubtless extended to Britain, and some of his coins *may* have been struck in the island.* The cuts here given are accurate representations of stones, one of which is still preserved at Bittern Manor House, near Southampton.

* There is one circumstance against such a supposition, namely, that the far greater number are found in France, where a peck or two are not unfrequently turned up.

DIOCLETIANUS AND MAXIMIANUS.

From the reign of Caracalla down to those of Diocletian and Maximian, no Roman coins bear allusion to the province of Britain, but it is not improbable that money was minted in the island with the effigies of these emperors. The practice of placing letters in the exergue to denote the place of mintage appears to have become general at this period, and Banduri* gives from Foucault a coin of Diocletian in second brass, bearing the very common type and legend:—Genius standing, holding a patera over an altar, and GENIO POPVLI ROMANI, but with the letters LON. in the exergue, which, though they *may* signify *Lugdunum officina nono*, in all probability stand for LON*dinum*. The authenticity of this coin might have been questioned; but the existence of another of Maximian, having the same type and exergual letters, removes all doubt.† It is singular, that though Constantius Chlorus resided

* Num. Imp. Rom. tom. ii. p. 19.

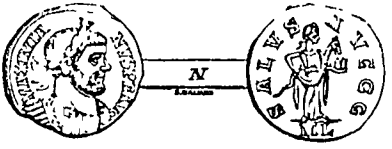
† This coin is in the cabinet of Mr. Nightingale, and is undoubtedly genuine. Another, found in Suffolk, was exhibited to the Numismatic Society. See Proceedings of the Num. Soc. April 22, 1841.

for some time in England, and died at Eboracum (York), no coins with his effigy have exergual letters of the same description.

The remarkable gold coin represented in the engraving (p. 109) was discovered in the Thames, by the ballast dredgers in 1840, and was purchased by Mr. C. R. Smith. Another, precisely similar, is in the collection of Mr. Atherley, of Southampton. The exergual letters ML would lead us to suppose that this is a coin of the London mint, especially when viewed in combination with the three G's, denoting three emperors. The remarks on the third brass of Carausius with AVGGG. in the succeeding section apply more especially to these gold coins. At any rate, a comparison with the famous gold coin in the British Museum will shew a remarkable similarity in the style of workmanship. There can be no doubt but that ML on this rare example signify *Moneta Londinensis*, and it would be scarcely necessary to insist, that on the money of Diocletian and Maximian they have the same signification.

The coin of Diocletian published by Banduri, and the two specimens of Maximian in second brass referred to above, are the only pieces of these emperors which we may safely believe were coined in Britain by their authority; but the gold coins above described, and the third brass of

Diocletian and Maximian reading PAX AVGGG.; VIRTVS AVGGG. &c., with MLXXI., or other letters, in the exergue, seem to have been struck by order of Carausius, to give an appearance of ratification and acknowledgment, on the part of the emperors, of right to the title and power he had assumed. These coins, in fabric and general appearance, much resemble those of Carausius, especially in the reverses, and are usually found in company with them throughout England, while they are not recorded or known ever to have been discovered on the continent.



CARAUSIUS.

[A.D. 287 TO A.D. 293.]

DOCTOR STUKELEY, in his history of Carausius, says that this usurper was a British prince and a native of Saint David's. But he has no authority for such a pedigree; and the Menapia, in which Carausius was in all probability born, was a city of Batavia, not of Wales.* Although the Roman historians differ in their accounts of his rank, they yet seem agreed as to the obscurity of his origin. One styles him a citizen of Menapia;† another says he was of the meanest extraction;‡ while a third describes him at once as a foundling;§ a sufficient proof that his birth was not noble, as Doctor Stukeley would have us believe.

A digression on the utility of numismatic studies would be out of place in a work like the present; but I cannot pass over in silence one

* That is, if huts or cabins are allowed to form a city; for Dion Cassius (lib. xxxix.) says, they (the Menapians) live not in cities but in huts; and Cæsar says the same thing.

† Menapiæ civis. Aur. Victor. De Cæsarib.

‡ Vilissimè natus. Eutrop. lib. xi. c. 21.

§ Eumenius, Paneg. in Constantino, c. 5.

circumstance relative to the coins of Carausius. His name is scarcely ever rightly spelt by historians, while on his coins we find not only that by which he is commonly known, but also those of *Marcus Aurelius*, and *Valerius.* Genebrier has a list of the names which have been given to him by various writers; and it must be confessed that they are a ludicrous variety. They are as follow:—Caratius, Karentius, Carentius, Caurasius, Coravissius, Carassius, Carassus, and Crausius. Victor calls him Corausius; and Zonarus gives him the name of Crassus, and says he reigned but three years in Britain.

In the year 287, the emperor Maximianus had just suppressed the revolt of the peasants in Gaul, when he received information of the usurpation of Carausius, who had sailed over to Britain with the Roman fleet, and assumed, with the purple, the title of Augustus. Carausius had long been celebrated as a skilful pilot and a valiant soldier; and his merit had obtained for him the command of the Roman fleet stationed at Boulogne to check the daring ravages of the German pirates. It is said that, notwithstanding the admiral's skill in naval affairs, he was unfitted for this important trust, and that he suffered the pirates to proceed upon their expeditions, and pounced upon them as they

returned laden with spoil;* a charge which is almost corroborated by the fact that he was possessed of great wealth at the time of his usurpation, with which he bribed the forces under his command.

Arrived in Britain, the Arch-pirate, as he is styled by Eumenius,† defied the vengeance of the emperors, and succeeded in ingratiating himself with the inhabitants, and the Roman troops stationed in the island. The wealth of Carausius was, it is said, reported to the emperors, who, judging, from that circumstance, that he was unworthy of the trust they had reposed in him, had taken measures for his apprehension and punishment. The usurper received intelligence of his danger, and immediately made a bold and successful effort to save himself. A very remarkable and unique coin, formerly in the possession of the late Mr. Douce, seems to allude to this escape: it bore on the reverse, a female figure grasping in each hand a serpent, with the legend VITAVI (*I have escaped!*). I was anxious to obtain a drawing of this coin from that gentleman, who kindly communicated to me several

* Eutropius, lib. xi. c. 21. Orosius, lib. vii. c. 25.

† "Adeo ut jam communis pœnæ timore deposito archipiratam satelles occideret," &c. — Paneg. in Constantio Cæs. cap. xii.

unpublished types of Carausius; and was mortified to find that it had been either lost or mislaid. It is, however, accurately described in my Descriptive Catalogue, where I have ventured to give the following explanation of its very curious type:—*

"This most extraordinary type is believed to be the only one of the kind in the Roman series, and the coin itself is probably unique. The singularity of the device encourages an attempt at an explanation of its meaning. The female figure would appear to be the good genius of Carausius, and she grasps in each hand the enemies of her protegé, the emperor Diocletian and his colleague, represented as serpents. May we not, therefore, suppose that this very curious coin was struck by Carausius immediately upon his arrival in Britain, before the recognition of his title by the emperors? It seems to confirm the account of the historians, who inform us that the rebel admiral, previous to his carrying off the Roman fleet, had received intelligence of some meditated punishment from the emperors."†

* Mr. Douce, a few weeks before his death, informed me that he had made diligent search for this coin, but without success, and that it had probably been stolen, with other things, when he removed to his residence in Gower Street.

† If it were not for the very singular legend EXPECTATE

"Time and chance" favoured the usurpation of Carausius: he arrived among the Britons, when their discontent had rendered them ripe for rebellion. Tacitus informs us, that in his time they groaned under the yoke of the Romans: they complained that instead of having one master, as formerly, they had then two; one was the governor, who exercised his cruelty upon their persons, and revelled in their blood; the other was the procurator, who seized upon and confiscated their property.* They suffered from the same evils under Diocletianus and Maximianus, and therefore welcomed the arrival of Carausius. The fleet which the usurper had

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VRNI on coins of Carausius, the authenticity of that with VITAVI might be doubted on the ground that its form is altogether unusual. After all, the latter may have been one of those blundered, re-struck, or ill struck, coins of Carausius, of which I have seen many examples. I have before me a brass coin of Carausius, of extremely rude workmanship, struck on one of Victorinus, the ill formed letters appearing not unlike this very word!

* They were a prey, on all occasions, to the rapacity and the licentiousness of the Roman troops:—"Singulos sibi olim reges fuisse, nunc binos imponi: è quibus legatus in sanguinem, procurator in bona sæviret: æque discordiam præpositorum, æque concordiam subjectis exitiosam: alterius, manus, centuriones; alterius, vim et contumelias miscere: nihil jam cupiditati, nihil libidini exceptum."—*Vita Agricolæ*, c. 15.

carried off from Boulogne, had deprived the emperors of the means of pursuit, and when, at length, after great labour and expense, a new armament was prepared, the imperial troops were an easy conquest to the experienced sailors of Carausius, on an element to which they were not accustomed. The rebel admiral was secure in his island retreat; and the emperors, finding that they could not punish their faithless servant, reluctantly accorded to him the title of Augustus. I say 'reluctantly,' for it is impossible that the assent of the emperors could be cordial, when it was wrung from them by necessity. But there is another circumstance which amounts almost to a proof that the treaty was never formally ratified. Coins of Carausius with PAX AVGGG.— LAETITIA AVGGG.— MONETA AVGGG.— PROVID. AVGGG. and SALVS AVGGG. (the three G's denoting three emperors), exist in considerable numbers, but those of Diocletianus and Maximianus, with the same indications, are of very unfrequent occurrence; a circumstance which seems to have escaped the notice of the discriminating and sagacious Eckhel. Now, the usurper would naturally publish the recognition of his title on his numerous coins; but we are without proof that the few coins of Diocletianus and Maximianus with AVGGG. were issued by their command;

on the contrary, there appear to be some grounds for supposing that they were minted by order of Carausius, for they bear in the exergue the same letters as are found on the coins of that usurper, namely, MLXXI; and are, besides, so like in fabric to those of Carausius, that we are warranted in believing them to have been minted by his order.*

Carausius enjoyed his honours seven years, and, during that period, performed many acts which evinced his ability to rule, notwithstanding his defection from his masters. He defended the frontiers of his empire from the Caledonians, courted the friendship and alliance of the Franks, upon the confines of whose country he was born, and, in reward for their services, instructed them in military and naval affairs. His fleets swept the seas, and, commanding the mouths of the Rhine and the Seine, ravaged the coasts, and rendered the name of the once obscure Menapian pilot as celebrated as those of the emperors.

During this time, Carausius still kept possession of Boulogne; but, in the year 292, the adoption of the two Cæsars, Constantius and Galerius, added strength to the Roman arms. Maximianus guarded the Rhine, and Constantius, taking command of the legions appointed for the British

* See the remarks on the coins of Maximianus, ante 107.

war, immediately laid siege to Boulogne, which, after an obstinate resistance, surrendered to the conqueror, who possessed himself of the naval stores of Carausius. Constantius then turned his arms against the Franks, and thus deprived the usurper of the assistance of that warlike people. Three years were consumed in the preparation of a fleet for the recovery of Britain; but ere it was launched, news arrived of the assassination of Carausius by his friend and prime minister, Allectus. The event was considered as a presage of victory to the Roman arms.

I have now to speak of the coins struck by Carausius during his reign in Britain. The gold coins of this usurper resemble those of Diocletianus and his colleague, being of a fine and bold but peculiar style of workmanship. The silver are of inferior workmanship, and often of very base quality. Many of them have illegible legends, and probably were the work of ignorant moneyers, if not of forgers. Numbers of the small brass are also of very barbarous execution; but all of them bear a portrait which it is impossible to confound with any other in the Roman series.*

* The silver *medallion* mentioned by Mionnet is merely a third brass coin washed or plated with silver.

As the types of the coins of Carausius are numerous, they are placed in alphabetical order, for more convenient reference. On those which offer peculiarities I have ventured to remark, but there are several which it may be suspected were adopted because they were the favourite types of the reigning emperors. Many of them are of very rude execution. Some are given on the authority of Stukeley alone; and though they may be authentic, they must, until verified, be received with caution, since it was the practice of that wild enthusiast to read a legend *as he wished it to be*, and to explain a type, however defaced and undecypherable, according to his own fancy.*

Although many of the types and legends of the money of this usurper are obviously copies of those of the emperors, and some of their predecessors, especially of Gallienus, it is yet positively certain that several reverses apply to Carausius only: among these may be noticed

* Witness his description of Jupiter delivering a globe to the emperor, a beautiful and eloquent type, not uncommon on Roman coins, which he tells us is *Venus presenting the apple to her friend!* This, with his absurd reveries about *Oriuna*, have rendered his name ridiculous to the really sensible and enquiring antiquary.

those of EXPECTATE VENI and CARAVSIVS ET FRATRES SVI; while it is clear that such legends as PRINCIPI IVVENTVTis and ORIENS AVG. can have no reference to the acts or to the situation of Carausius. In the latter case they must have been executed by ignorant, and probably illiterate, moneyers, without knowledge of their application or significance. This remark applies especially to some of the coins with the names of the legions noticed hereafter.

GOLD AND SILVER.

1. ADVENTVS AVG. (*Adventus Augusti.*) The emperor on horseback, his right hand elevated, his left holding the hasta: before, a captive seated on the ground. In the exergue, a thunderbolt. (Cabinet of J. Brumell, Esq.) AR.
2. Same legend. A similar type. In the exergue,—The obverse has the laureated bust of Carausius, holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle. (In the Hunter collection.) AR.
3. Same legend. A similar type on the reverse, with ML. in the exergue. AR.

This is a common type on Roman coins. It celebrates the arrival of an emperor; and the coin here described was perhaps struck upon occasion of the usurper's landing in Britain, unless the seated captive be considered as im-

plying a return from some victory on the northern frontiers. Be this as it may, the dress and attitude of Carausius denote that his advent is a friendly one. His right hand is raised and open, as if held out in amity and peace: "*Dextra vetat pugnas*," says Statius.*

4. ADVENTVS AVGG. (or AVG.) The emperor casting a javelin, and riding over two figures seated on the ground. In the exergue, M. (Stukeley.) AR.

5. . . . . AVGG. Jupiter and Hercules standing, both naked; the former holding the hasta and thunderbolt, the other his club and the lion's skin. In the exergue, +++. (In the British Museum). AR.

This type appears to have been imitated from some of the numerous coins of Diocletian, and his colleague Maximian, who, as is well known, assumed the names of Jupiter and Hercules. No. 4 does not vary from the coins of the emperors with the same type.

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* It is very probable that this extension of the right hand denotes that the emperor is addressing the populace or the troops. Extending or stretching out the hand is used by Dio Chrysostom in the sense of addressing:—thus, "whether you stretch out your hand in the senate or among the people." Ovid makes Ajax use this gesture:—

"Intendensque manus, Agimus, proh Jupiter! inquit,
Ante rates caussam." Metam. xiii. 5.

So also Saint Paul (Acts xxvi. 1), stretching out his hand (ἐκτείνας τὴν χεῖρα), commences his defence before Agrippa.

6. CONCORDIA AVG. Two hands joined. (Haym.) AR.
7. CONCORDIA MILITVM. Two women standing. (Mionnet.) AU. and AR.
8. Same legend. Two hands joined. In the exergue, RSR. (or C.)* AR.
9. CONCORD. MILIT. A woman holding two standards. In the exergue, RSR. (or RS.) AR.

Although these types and legends are common on coins of the Roman emperors, they are quite appropriate on the money of Carausius.

10. CONSERVATORI AVGGG. (*Conservatori Augustorum.*) Hercules standing, with club and lion's skin (or bow). In the exergue, ML. AU.

This coin, preserved in the Hunter collection, is of extreme rarity. Mionnet describes one with the addition of a quiver in the field. Hercules was, as is well known, the favourite deity of the emperor Maximianus, who assumed the surname of *Hercules*.

11. CONSERVAT. AVG. Jupiter standing, holding the hasta and thunderbolt: at his feet an eagle. In the exergue, ML. (*Moneta Londinensis.*) AU.

This coin is in very fine preservation; and was

* The C. in the exergue, in all probability, stands for Clausentum (Southampton). The meaning of RSR. is not so obvious, but it is very likely that the letters RS. stand for *Rutupiæ* (Richborough) *Signata.* Coins of Carausius are frequently found in the neighbourhood of Richborough.

purchased for the British Museum for £120. The workmanship is totally different to that of the silver and brass coins of Carausius; the relief is very bold, and the style of the portrait seems to have been closely copied from those of Diocletianus and Maximianus.

12. CONS. AVG. A woman standing, holding an anchor and the hasta. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

13. EXPECTATE VENI. (*Come, O expected one!*) The emperor joining hands with a woman, who holds a trident. In the exergue, RSR. AU. and AR.

A silver coin of this type is in the collection of the late Mr. Thomas. Both type and legend are singular and interesting, and seem to imply that Carausius had sounded the Britons before he ran off with the fleet from Boulogne. Genebrier, describing, probably, from an ill-preserved coin, takes the female figure for Felicity, and supposes the trident to be the long caduceus with which she is generally represented; but that it is a trident which she holds is quite evident, and that the figure is the genius of Britain will be acknowledged even by the unimaginative. Eckhel* observes on the remarkable legend of these coins, that it is the form used by Æneas to the spirit of Hector:—

* Doct. Num. Vet. vol. viii. p. 45.

——" Quibus Hector ab oris
Expectate venis ?*

Some are without letters in the exergue.

14. EXPECTATAE VENVS (*sic*). In this specimen, the object held by the female figure is a hasta with a triangular termination. AR.

There are several barbarous imitations of No. 13, of which this is an example.

15. FELICITAS (or FELICITA). A galley, with rowers. In the exergue, RSR. (or PSA.) AR.

16. FELICITAS. Four children, representing the four seasons. AR.

17. FELICITA AVG. A galley, with four rowers. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

18. FIDEM MILITVM NN. A woman standing, holding a pair of scales and a cornucopia. AR.

19. FIDES MILIT. A woman holding two standards. In the exergue, RSR. (Late in the collection of the Rev. F. Blick.) AR.

20. FORTVNA AVG. Fortune, with her attributes, standing. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

21. IXPECTATE VENI. (*sic.*) The emperor holding a spear, and delivering a standard to a woman. (British Museum.) AR.

22. LAETITIA AVG. A galley, with rowers. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

23. LEG. IIII. FL. A lion walking, holding ears of corn in his mouth. In the exergue, MRS. (Mionnet.) AU.

24. LEG. IIII. F.... A centaur walking to the left, bearing

* Æn. lib. ii. ver. 282.

a long club (or pedum), which he holds with both hands, and rests on his shoulders. In the exergue, c. AR.

This coin is in the collection of Mr. Brumell. The fourth legion, it would appear from the type, took, for their cognizance, that monster of heathen fable which the Greek epigrammatist describes as—

"A horse without head—a man without feet!"

But I must here correct my error in the first edition of this work; namely, in supposing that the fourth legion accompanied Carausius into Britain. There is nothing to prove this; and although it materially lessens the interest of these coins, I am compelled to assert that they are copied from the very abundant third brass of Gallienus. A reference to Banduri's elaborate list* will justify these remarks. Only four legions were in Britain at this time, namely the 2nd, 6th, 9th, and 20th, three of which only appear on coins of this usurper.†

25. LEG. V.... AVG. A bull standing. (Stukely.) AR.
26. LEG. VII..... A similar type. (Ibid.) AR.
27. LEG. VIII.... IN. A ram, standing. In the exergue, ML. (Ibid.) AR.

* Tom. i. pp. 164 to 170 inclusive.

† The reader is referred to a very interesting work by Mr. Wellbeloved, entitled "Eboracum; or York under the Romans," for many particulars relating to the legions in Britain.

28. LEG. VIII. INV. A similar type, with or without ML. in the exergue. (Ibid.) AR.
29. LIB. SPPC. (*sic*). The emperor, on horseback. In the exergue, RSR. (British Museum.) AR.
30. MONETA AVG. Moneta standing. (Ibid.) AR.
31. ORIENS AVG. The sun standing; his right hand raised, his left holding a globe. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

This type applies to no act of Carausius, and must be regarded as a copy from a reverse of a coin of some Roman emperor who obtained fame in the eastern countries of the empire.

32. ORTVNA (for FORTVNA) AVG. A female bust to the right within a garland, holding a garland and a branch. AR.
33. PAX AVG. Peace standing, with olive-branch and cornucopia. ML. in the exergue. On some, L. in the field. AR.
34. PRINCIPI IVVENT. The emperor standing, holding a spear. AR.

This type applies to some Cæsar or heir apparent of the empire, and can have no reference to Carausius.

35. RENOVAT ROMA. A similar type to No. 31. In the exergue, RSR. AR.
36. RENOVA . . . ROMANO. Romulus and Remus suckled by the wolf. In the exergue, RSR. (In the Hunter collection.) AR.
37. ROMO. RENOV. A similar type. RSR. AR.
38. ROMO. RENOV. (or RENOVA.) A similar type. In the exergue, RSR. AR.
39. ROMANO RENOVA. A similar type. The obverse has the helmeted bust of Carausius: legend, VIRTVS CARAVSI. AU. and AR.

The legend of this coin is a novelty in the Roman series. Eckhel says of it, "Legenda epigraphe Romanorum Renovatio, nimirum cum partem imperii R. sibi ab invitis Carausius extorqueret, honesto, ut fit, vocabulo rapinam excusans."*

40. ROMAE AETERNAE. Victory standing, presenting a garland to Rome, seated. In the exergue, cxxi. AR.

41. ROMAE AETERNAE. Rome seated, within a temple. In the exergue, RSR. AR.

42. SALVS AVG. Salus, feeding a serpent, rising from an altar. AR.

43. Same legend. Salus, feeding a serpent entwined around an altar, and holding the hasta in her right hand. AR.

44. VBERSTA AV. (*sic*). A woman milking a cow. The obverse of this coin presents the bust of Carausius to the left, the head laureated, and the right hand holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle. In the exergue, SR. AR.

This coin was found in the Thames a few years since.†

45. VBERTAS AVG. Neptune standing on the prow of a vessel, joining hands with the emperor, who holds a spear. In the exergue, RSR. (Stukeley.) AR.

46. VBERTAS (or VBERTA) AVG. A figure, milking a cow. In the exergue of some, RSR. AR.

47. VLTO PAX AVG. (*sic*). The emperor, in a military habit, joining hands with a woman, who holds a patera; between them an altar. AR.

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* Doct. Num. Vet. tom. viii. p. 48.

† Gentleman's Magazine, 1837, vol. vii. p. 267.

48. VICTORIA .... A. Victory marching, with a garland. AR.
49. VIRTVS IM... AVG. (*sic*). A military figure standing, holding a globe and a javelin. In the exergue, L. AR.
50. VOTO PVBLICO. A garland, within which is inscribed, MVLTIS XX. IMP. In the exergue of some, RSR. AR.
51. Same legend. An altar, inscribed MVLTIS XX. IMP. (British Museum.) AR.
52. VOTVM PVBLIC. A similar type. In the exergue, RSR. (In the Hunter collection.) AR.
53. VOTVM PVBLICVM. A similar type, without the letters in the exergue. AR.

THIRD BRASS.

1. ABVNDANTI AVG. A woman emptying a cornucopia.
2. ADIVTRIX AVG. Half-length bust of Victory, holding a garland and a palm-branch.
3. Same legend. Victory standing, with garland and palm-branch.

Coins of Victorinus occur in third brass with the same legend.

4. ADVENTVS AVG. Felicity standing, with a long caduceus and a cornucopia.

A novel type with this legend.

5. ADVENTVS CARAVSI. The emperor on horseback; his right hand raised, holding a globe. In the exergue of some, RSP. (or ML.)
6. AEQVITAS AVG. Equity, with her attributes. (In the Hunter collection.)

7. ..... AVG. The emperor and a woman joining hands.
8. APOLLINI CO. AVG. A griffin. In the exergue, MSC. (or MS.)
9. APOLLINI CONS. A griffin. In the exergue, MC.
10. APOLLINI CONS. AVG. A griffin.

These legends and types will be found on the abundant third brass of Gallienus.

11. COHH... Four standards. In the exergue, ML.
12. COHR. PRAET. Four standards. (In the Hunter collection.)
13. COMES AVG. Victory marching, with garland and palm-branch. In the exergue, C. (or L. or ML.)

The same type and legend occur on coins of Victorinus.

14. Same legend. A similar type, with ML. in the exergue. The obverse has the helmeted head of Carausius, with javelin and buckler: legend, CARAVSIVS AVG.

The coins of Carausius with these armed busts appear to be modelled on those of the emperor Probus, on whose money the imperial effigies are often thus represented.

15. Same legend. Minerva standing, holding the hasta and an olive-branch.
16. Same legend. Neptune standing: his right foot on a galley in the sea, his left on a dolphin: a dolphin in his right hand, and a trident reversed in his left. On some, S. P. in the field.
17. COMES AVGGG. Minerva standing. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, MLXXI. (Tanini.)

18. Same legend. Victory marching, with garland and palm-branch. In the field, s. p. In the exergue of some, c.
19. CONCORD. AVGG. A woman holding two standards.
20. CONCORDIA AVGG. A woman *standing, holding the* hasta and a cornucopia.
21. CONCORDIA MIL. Two right hands joined. In the exergue, RS.
22. CONCORD. MILIT. A similar type. In the exergue, RSR.
23. CONCORD. MILITVM. A similar type. In the exergue, c.
24. CONCORDIA MILITI. (or MILIT.) The emperor, in the toga, joining hands with a woman. In the exergue, c.
25. CONCORD. MILITVM. A similar type. In the exergue, c.
26. CONCORDIA MILITVM N. N. A similar type; with o. in the field, and XXX. in the exergue.
27. CONCORDIA MILITVM P. C. A similar type. In the exergue, x.
28. CONSERVAT. AVG. Neptune seated; in his right hand, an anchor; in his left, a trident reversed.
29. Same legend. A naked figure standing, in his right hand, an unknown object; in his left, the hasta pura. In the field, s. c.
30. CONSERVATOR. A woman seated, her elbow resting on a cippus.
31. CONSTANT. AVG. A naked male figure standing; in his right hand, the hasta. In the field, s. c. In the exergue, sc.
32. CONSTANT. (or CONSTAVNT.) (*sic*) AVG. Hercules standing. In the field, s. In the exergue, c. (Mionnet.)
33. COS. IIII. A woman standing, holding a globe. (Stukeley.)
34. DIANA. Diana seated.
35. DIANAE CONS. (or DINAE) (*sic*) AVG. A stag. In the exergue, XX.
36. EXPECTA..... Victory placing a garland upon the emperor's head.

37. EXPECTATE VENI. Two figures standing, joining hands. In the exergue, RSA.

38. FELICITAS AVG. A woman standing, holding an ensign and a cornucopia.

39. Same legend. A galley on the sea, with rowers. In the exergue of some, CXXI.

40. FELICIT. PVPLI. (*sic*). Felicity holding a caduceus, leaning on a column. In the exergue, C.

41. FELICITAS. Four children, representing the four Seasons.

42. FIDES MILITVM. A woman holding two standards.

43. FIDES MILIT. A similar type. In the exergue, C.

44. FIDEM MILITVM. A similar type. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.)

The last three types occur perpetually in the Roman series, but they are very appropriate on the coins of one who owed so much to his military partizans.

45. FORTVNA AVG. Fortune standing; in her right hand, the hasta; in her left, a cornucopia.

46. Same legend. Fortune standing, with rudder and cornucopia. In the exergue of some, C.

47. Same legend. Fortune seated, holding a rudder and a cornucopia.

48. Same legend. Fortune seated upon a wheel, holding the hasta. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.)

49. FORT. REDVX. (or RAEDVX.) (*sic*). Fortune seated on a wheel, with rudder and cornucopia.

50. Same legend. Fortune seated, with rudder and cornucopia.

51. GENIO AVG. A woman standing, holding a globe and a cornucopia.

52. GENIVS EXERCIT. Genius standing to the left; in his right hand a patera, on his left arm a cornucopia: in the field, SP.; in the exergue, C.

This unique brass coin was in the possession of the late Mr. R. F. Newman, City Solicitor, a relative of whom shewed it to Mr. C. R. Smith, who made the drawing of which an engraving is given in this work. It shews that the usurper was anxious to testify his gratitude to the army which had enabled him to attain the sovereignty of Britain.

53. GERMANICVS MAXV. A trophy, and two captives. In the exergue, L. (Mionnet.)*

This legend and type occur both on the coins of Gallienus and of Postumus.

54. HERCVLI INVICT. Hercules standing, with his club.

55. HERCVLI PACIFERO. Hercules standing, holding an olive-branch and club.*

56. HILARITAS AVG. A woman standing, holding a branch and a cornucopia. In the exergue, ML. (In the Hunter collection.)

57. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a garland and a cornucopia.

58. HILARITAS AVGGG. A woman standing, holding a branch and a cornucopia.

59. IAPR.... VICTOR (*sic*). A woman standing, holding an olive-branch and the hasta.

60. INVICTVS. The sun marching. (Mionnet.)

61. INVICTVS AVG. A similar type.

62. I. O. X. The emperor, in a military habit, on horseback; his right hand holding a spear, his left hand raised aloft.

The three letters on this coin have been sup-

* Numismatic Journal, vol. i. p. 264.

posed to indicate the acclamations of the multitude, and to signify 10 *Decies*. Eckhel, after remarking on it, adds, " Quisque pro se ænigma explicit!"

63. IOVI AVG. Jupiter standing, holding the hasta and thunderbolt. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.

64. IOVI CONSER... A similar type. In the field, S. P.

65. IOVI CONSER. AVG. A similar type.

66. IOVI CONS. Jupiter and Carausius standing; the first delivering a globe to the emperor. (See Stukeley, who supposes the figure of Jupiter to be *Venus with the apple!*)

67. IOVI STATORI. Jupiter standing, with hasta and thunderbolt.

68. LAETIT. AVG. A woman standing; in her right hand, a garland; in her left, ears of corn. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

69. LAETITIA AVG. A similar type. In the field, S. C. (Some are without the S. C.)

70. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a garland and the hasta. In the field, P. O. In the exergue, MC.

71. Same legend. A similar type. In the exergue, MC.

72. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field, or in the exergue.

73. Same legend. A galley, with rowers. In the exergue, MC.

74. LAETITIA AVGG. A woman standing, holding a garland and ears of corn. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

75. Same legend. A woman standing, holding an anchor; her hand resting on an anchor.

76. LAETITIA FVND. A woman standing, holding the hasta and a garland. In the exergue, XXI.

77. LEG. IIXX. PRIMIG. Capricorn to the right. In the exergue, ML.

This unique coin, found at Strood in Kent, was communicated to the Numismatic Society* by Mr. C. Roach Smith, who, in assigning it to the twenty-second rather than the eighteenth legion, (there is authority for the numerals representing either,) remarks: — "The twenty-second legion, surnamed Primagenia, and bearing, in common with at least six other legions, the badge of the Capricorn, appears to have been composed of allied troops, and was quartered in Gaul and Belgium. Six towns or places are named as stations in which were divisions of this legion. In several inscriptions given by Gruter and Ursinus, the title of Primagenia is affixed to this legion; but upon coins I can only find it expressed in one instance, and that is on a denarius of Severus. In the list of legionary coins struck by Gallienus, it does not occur, though such as have LEG. XXII. merely, are not uncommon."

78. LEG. II. AVG. Capricorn. In the exergue, ML.
79. LEG. II. PARTH. A centaur, holding a globe and a rudder. In the exergue, M. or ML.
80. Same legend. A centaur walking to the right, holding with both hands a long club or pedum, which he rests on his shoulders. (Cabinet of J. Brumell, Esq.)
81. Same legend. A centaur standing. In the exergue, MI.

* Num. Chron. vol. ii. p. 114.

82. Same legend. A centaur walking to the right, holding a club and a garland.

83. LEG. II. PAR. A centaur walking, holding a globe and a club. In the exergue, ML.

84. LEG. IIII. FLAVIA P. F. Two lions meeting; above, a human head, with the ancient diadem. (Stukeley.)

85. LEG. IIII. FL. A lion walking. In the exergue of some, MC.

86. LEG. VII. CL. A bull. In the exergue of some, ML.

87. LEG. VII. CLA. A bull: above, D. X. In the exergue of some, M.

88. LEG. VIII. A ram. In the exergue, ML.

89. LEG. VIII. AVG. A bull. In the exergue of some, ML.

90. LEG... IN.. A ram. In the exergue, ML.

91. LEG. XXI. VLPIA. Neptune standing, holding the hasta and a dolphin. (Stukeley.)

92. LEG. XXV. V. A boar standing.

93. LEG.... VLPIA. A male figure standing; in his right hand, an unknown object; in his left, the hasta. (In the Hunter collection.)*

94. L..... VLPIA. VI. (*sic*). Neptune standing; in his right hand, a dolphin; in his left, a trident. (British Museum.)

95. ..... LITIT. AV. (*sic*). A woman, holding the hasta, standing before an altar. (Ibid.)

96. MAR. PAC.... A woman, holding a caduceus and a cornucopia. (Stukeley.)

97. MARTI PACIF. Mars marching, with a laurel-branch and a javelin.

98. MARTI PACIFER. Mars marching, with shield and olive-branch.

99. MARTI PACIFERO. Mars marching, with a laurel-branch and ears of corn. In the field, S. C. In the exergue, C.

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* See the remarks on the silver coins of Carausius with these legends.

100. MARS VICTOR. Mars marching, with a trophy. In the field of some, S. C.

101. MARS VICTOR. Mars standing, holding the hasta pura, and a buckler. (In the Hunter collection.)

102. MARS VLTOR. Mars marching, holding a javelin and a buckler.

103. MARS..... Mars standing; his right hand holding a spear; his left holding a horse by the bridle. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.)

104. ..... MILITVM. Two women standing, joining hands. (British Museum.)

105. MONETA AVG. Moneta standing, with her attributes. In the exergue, MC. or MSP

106. MONET(A) AVGGG. Moneta standing, with her attributes. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

This rare coin is in the British Museum: it is remarkable on account of the title of *Invictus* on the obverse. The title of *Moneta* was given to Juno, from *monere*, to admonish; the sacred geese, kept in the temple of that goddess, having alarmed the Romans when the Gauls attempted to surprise the capitol by night. A temple was subsequently erected, in which the silver of the commonwealth was deposited; and this place was eventually used as the public mint.

Captain Smyth, in his excellent work on Roman coins, quaintly remarks, that "gold has been worshipped through all ages without hypocrisy." The respect which Carausius seems here to record for *Moneta*, must have been equally sincere; since it, doubtless, was to his wealth that he owed the

success of his rebellion. The three G's on this coin, of course, denote the triple sovereignty. The C. in the exergue denotes, in all probability, Clausentum (Bittern, near Southampton), in which neighbourhood, coins of Carausius with this mint-mark are frequently discovered.

107. Same legend. Moneta standing. In the field, S. C.

108. Same legend. Moneta standing. In the exergue, RSR.

109. Same legend. Moneta standing. In the field, S. C. In the exergue, C.

110. MONETA AVGG. Moneta standing.

111. Same legend. Moneta standing. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

112. MONETA AVGGG. Moneta standing. In the field, B. P. In the exergue, C. (British Museum.)

113. ORIENS AVG. The sun standing, his right hand raised, his left holding a globe. In the field, S. P.

114. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field or exergue.

115. Same legend. The sun marching, his right hand raised, his left holding a globe. In the field, a star.

116. Same legend. The sun marching, his right hand elevated, his left holding a whip.

117. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, MLX.

118. ORIENS AVG. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

119. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field. In the exergue, C.

120. Same legend. The sun standing; his right hand raised; his left holding a globe; at his feet, a captive.

121. Same legend. The sun standing between two captives: a globe in his left hand. (Stukeley.)

122. ORIBS . . (*sic*). The sun standing, with right hand extended, and holding in the left a globe. In the exergue, RSR.

This coin was found at Strood in Kent.* See the remarks on a similar type in silver.

123. PACATOR ORBIS. Radiated head of the sun. (In the Hunter collection.)

124. PACATO . . . . The same type.

125. PAX AETERN. AVG. Peace standing, holding an olive-branch and the hasta.

126. PAX AVG. Peace standing, holding an olive-branch and the hasta. In the exergue, ML. On others, S. P. in the field, and C. in the exergue.

127. Same legend. A similar type, with FO. ML. *or* L. ML. *or* RO. ML. *or* L. VII. *or* SP. C. *or* various other letters.

128. Same legend. A similar type, with B.E. in the field, and MLXXI. in the exergue. The obverse has the radiated head of Carausius, with coat of mail, javelin, and buckler.

129. Same legend. A similar type, with ML. in the exergue. The obverse has the helmeted bust of Carausius, with coat of mail, holding a javelin, resting on his shoulder, and a buckler: legend, CARAVSIVS AVG.

130. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field. In the exergue, CXXI. The obverse has the radiated heads of Carausius and the sun, side by side: legend, IMP. CARAVSIVS P. F. AVG. (In the Hunter collection.)

131. PAX AVG. A similar type, with . . . in the field, and CXXI. in the exergue. The obverse has the helmeted bust of Carausius, with radiated crown, javelin, and a buckler: legend, VIRTVS CARAVSI.

* Num. Chron. vol. ii. p. 121.

132. Same legend. Peace standing, holding a branch and a cornucopia. In the exergue, ML. *or* XXXX.

133. PAX AVGG. Peace standing, holding a flower, or a branch, and the hasta erect.

134. PAX AVGGG. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C. On some, S. P. in the field, and MLXXI. *or* C. in the exergue. The obverses of some have the bust with paludamentum; on others, a coat of mail.

It is generally believed, that the coins of Carausius, with this legend, were struck in commemoration of the treaty between the usurper and the emperors Diocletianus and Maximianus.*

135. PAX AVGVSTA. Peace walking, holding a flower and the hasta. In the exergue, CXXI. The obverse has the heads of Carausius and the sun, side by side; legend, IMP. CARAVSIVS P. F. AVG. (In the Hunter collection.)

136. Same legend. Bust of Peace. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.)†

137. PAX GALLI IVG. (*sic*). Peace standing, holding the hasta.

138. PIAETAS AVG. (*sic*). A woman standing; a child at her feet. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.

139. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a branch (or garland) and a cornucopia.

140. PIETAS AVGGG. Mercury, with attributes, standing. In the field, L. P. In the exergue, MC.

Unique: in the cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith. It was found in the bed of the Thames.

141. PIETAS AVG. A veiled woman standing before an altar. (In the Hunter collection).

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* See the remarks at page 115.

† This collection was bequeathed by Mr. Douce to the Bodleian Library.

142. Same legend. A woman standing before an altar, holding a cornucopia.
143. Same legend. A woman standing before an altar, holding the hasta.
144. PIKTVS (*sic*) AVG. A woman sacrificing on an altar. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ...
145. PRINCIPI IVVENTVT. A military figure standing, bare-headed, holding a standard and a spear.
146. PROVID. AVG. A woman standing, holding a globe and the hasta transversely. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
147. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a globe and the hasta. In the field, S. C.
148. Same legend. A woman standing, holding the hasta and a cornucopia. In the field, S. C. In the exergue, C.
149. Same legend. A woman standing, touching a globe on the ground; on her left arm, a cornucopia. In the field, S. P.
150. PROVID. AVGGG. A woman standing, holding a globe and a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
151. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a globe and the hasta transversely. In the field, S. P.
152. Same legend. A woman standing, touching with a wand a globe on the ground; on her left arm, a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue of some, C.
153. PROVIDE. AVG. A woman standing, holding a globe and a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. or S. C.
154. PROVIDEN. AVG. A woman standing, touching a globe with a wand; on her left arm, a cornucopia. In the exergue, C.
155. PROVIDENT. AVG. A woman standing, holding a globe and the hasta transversely. In the field, B. In the exergue, MLXXI.
156. PROVIDENTIA AVG. A woman standing, holding a garland (or a branch) and a wand.

157. Same legend. A woman standing, holding in each hand a military ensign.

158. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a wand and a cornucopia.

159. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a branch and a cornucopia.

160. Same legend. A woman standing, holding a globe and a cornucopia. In the field, S. P.

161. RENOVAT. ROMA. Romulus and Remus suckled by the wolf. In the exergue, C. *or* RSR.

162. RESTITVT. SAECVL. The emperor standing, holding a globe and the hasta pura. Victory standing behind.

163. RESTITVT. SAECVLI. The emperor, in a military habit, standing, holding a spear: Victory behind, placing a garland on his head. In the exergue, C.

164. ROMAE AETER. A temple with six columns; within, a figure seated, full-faced. In the exergue, SPC.

165. Same legend. A figure standing; Rome seated on spoils, CXXI.

166. ROMANORVM RENOV. Romulus and Remus suckled by the wolf.

167. SAECVLARES AVG. A lion walking. In the exergue, MC. (In the Hunter collection.)

168. SAECVLARES AVGG. A lion standing. (Stukeley.)

These types were, doubtless, imitated from those of the denarii of Philip and his son.

169. SAECVLI FELICITAS. The emperor marching, bearing a javelin and a globe.

170. Same legend. The emperor standing, holding a javelin and a globe.

171. Same legend. Felicity standing, with a caduceus and cornucopia.

172. SAECVLI FELICIT. A naked figure standing, holding a javelin and a globe. In the field, S. C. In the exergue, C.

173. SALVS AVG. Salus standing, holding the hasta, and feeding a serpent rising from an altar. In the field, s. c.
174. Same legend. A similar type, with B. E. in the field, and MLXXI. in the exergue.
175. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field or in exergue.
176. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. F. In the exergue, MLXXI.
177. Same legend. Salus standing, holding a serpent feeding from a patera, which she holds in her left hand. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, MLXXI. *or* MLXX.
178. Same legend. Salus, seated before an altar, feeding a serpent.
179. SALVS AVGGG. Salus feeding a serpent out of a patera. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C. (Cabinet of J. Brumell, Esq.)
180. SALVS PVBLICA. Salus standing, feeding a serpent out of a patera. In the field, B. E. In the exergue, MLX. The obverse has the radiated bust of Carausius, with coat of mail, a spear, and a round shield, ornamented with three equestrian figures: legend, IMP. CARAVSIVS P. F. AVG. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.)
181. SECVRIT..... Security leaning on a column.
182. SECVRITAS ORBIS. Security seated.
183. SOLI INVICTO. The sun in a quadriga, his right hand elevated. In the exergue, VC. The obverse has the radiated bust of Carausius, with javelin and buckler: legend, IMP. CARAVSIVS AVG.
184. SPES PVBL..... (*sic*). Hope. In the field, S. P.
185. SPES PVBL..... Hope. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
186. SPES PVBLICA. Hope. In the field, S. C.
187. Same legend. Hope. In the exergue, M.
188. TEMP. FELICITAS. The four seasons.

The TEMP. is placed on the upper part of the

reverse, the word FELICITAS in the exergue. A coin of this type is figured in Stukeley, but with the omission of the former part of the inscription. It forms part of the collection made by Mr. C. R. Smith from the bed of the Thames.*

189. TEMPO FELIC. Felicity standing, holding a long caduceus and a cornucopia.

190. TEMPORVM FEL. A similar type. In the field, S. C.

191. TEMPORVM FELI. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

192. TEMPORVM FELICITAS. A woman standing, holding a garland and a cornucopia.

193. TVTELA AVG. A woman standing, holding a patera over an altar; on her left arm, a double cornucopia. (In the Hunter collection.)

194. Same legend. A similar type; but the woman holds a single cornucopia.

195. TVTELA..... P..... A woman standing, holding a flower and a cornucopia.

196. VBERITAS AVG. The emperor, in a military habit, joining hands with Neptune, who stands on the prow of a vessel. (Stukeley.)

197. Same legend. The emperor and a woman, joining hands, each holding the hasta pura. In the exergue, RSR. The obverse has the laureated bust of Carausius, with the trabea, holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle: legend, IMP. CARAVSIVS P. F. A.

198. VBERTAS AVG. Neptune standing on the prow of a vessel, joining hands with the emperor in a military habit.

199. Same legend. A woman milking a cow. In the exergue, RSR.

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* Num. Chron. vol. iv. p. 147 et seq.

200. . ICTORIA. Victory standing, holding the hasta and a wreath.

In the collection of Mr. C. R. Smith.

201. VICTORIA AVG. Victory, with wreath and palm-branch, standing on a globe between two sedent captives.

This coin was found in the bed of the Thames, near London Bridge, and is now in the collection of Mr. C. R. Smith.

202. VICTORIA AVG. Victory walking, holding a garland and a palm-branch. In the exergue, CXXI.

203. VICTORIA AVG. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.

204. Same legend. Victory marching, holding a garland and a palm-branch; at her feet, a captive. In the field, C.

205. Same legend. A similar type In the field, ... In the exergue, MC.

206. Same legend. A similar type, without letters in the field. In the exergue, MC.

207. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, E. In the exergue, MLXXI.

208. VICTORIA AVGG. Victory marching, holding a garland and palm-branch. In the field, +.

209. Same legend. A woman standing, holding the hasta, and sacrificing on an altar. (Stukeley.)

210. Same legend. Victory marching, holding a garland and a palm-branch. In the field, +.

211. VICTORIA . . . . . A trophy between two captives.

212. VICTORIA . . . . . Victory standing, holding the hasta and a palm-branch. In the exergue, ML.

213. VITORIA (*sic*) AVG. A woman standing, holding a flower and the hasta.

214. VICTORIA GER. A trophy between two captives.

215. VICTORIA PR. (The legend from right to left.) A woman standing, holding the hasta and a palm-branch. In the exergue, ML.

216. VIRTVS AV. A woman standing, holding a flower and the hasta.

In the collection of Mr. C. R. Smith.

217. VIRTVS AVG. A military figure standing, with shield and spear. In the field, s. c. In the exergue, c.

Some are without letters in the field and the exergue.

218. VIRTVS AVG. Mars naked marching, with javelin and buckler. In the field, s. c.

219. Same legend. Mars marching, with spear and trophy. In the field of some, s. c.

220. Same legend. A military figure marching, with spear and shield.

221. Same legend. Victory marching, with garland and palm-branch. (Stukeley.)

222. Same legend. Victory standing, with garland or palm-branch.

223. VIRTVS AV. A woman standing, holding a globe and a cornucopia.

224. VIRTVS AVGG. A military figure standing, with spear and shield.

225. Same legend. A military figure standing, holding an inverted javelin and a buckler. In the exergue, c. The obverse has the radiated bust of Carausius, with the paludamentum : legend, IMP. C. M. AVR. CARAVSIVS P. AVG.

The coin which bears this uncommon legend on the obverse, was originally in the cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.

226. VIRTVTE AVG. Hercules strangling the Nemæan lion; a club on the ground. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

227. VIRTVTI AVG. Hercules standing; a club in his right hand, a bow in his left.

228. Same legend. A galley, with rowers. (Mionnet.)

229. VIRTVS INV. AVG. A military figure standing, holding a javelin and a globe. In the exergue, L.

230. VIRTV. AVG. Hercules, arrayed in the lion's skin, joining hands over an altar, with a female figure. In the exergue, XX.

This unique coin, the property of Lord Albert Conyngham, was found near Newbury. It was stolen in its transit through the Post Office.

231. VITAVI. A woman standing, holding in each hand a serpent. (Cabinet of the late F. Douce, Esq.) See the remarks in the note at p. 113.

232. VOTVM PVBLIC. An altar, with the fire kindled, inscribed XX. IMP. In the exergue, RSR.

233. ..... X... VO. A woman standing, holding in her right hand a garland: in her left, a head with a mural crown. (Stukeley.)

CARAUSIUS, DIOCLETIANUS, AND MAXIMIANUS.

Obverse. CARAVSIVS ET FRATRES SVI. The heads of Carausius, Diocletianus, and Maximianus, side by side; the first radiated, the second bare, and that of Maximianus with the lion's skin.

Reverse. PAX AVGGG.. Peace standing to the right, holding an olive-branch and the hasta pura. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, G. (Eckhel, Doct. Num. Vet. vol. viii. p. 47.)

A coin of this interesting and rare type, is

stated by Stukeley to have belonged to Mr. Wale, of Colne in Lancashire, in whose custody it appears to have remained for some time unnoticed, in a mass of Roman coins found at Chesterford, until detected by the experienced eye of Mr. Charles Gray, F.R.S., F.S.A. Stukeley describes it, "of excellent workmanship, and perfect preservation, the faces of the three emperors distinct, and easily known; Diocletian in the middle, Carausius on his right, Maximian uppermost, exactly according to the rule of manners."*

ALLECTUS.

[A.D. 293 TO A.D. 296.]

ALLECTUS succeeded to a tottering throne, and his days were numbered. The shores of the Continent were covered with troops, and Constantius had arranged them in such a manner that Allectus was left in doubt as to the place of his meditated landing. The usurper beheld the vast preparations with alarm and terror; but resolved to maintain, by force of arms, the power he had acquired by the basest treachery. The principal squadron, destined to make a descent upon the

* Medallic Hist. of Carausius, vol. i. p.106. London, 1757.

island, rendezvoused in the mouth of the Seine; and, under the command of the præfect Asclepiodotus, set sail for Britain on a stormy day, and with a side wind, an adventure which the panegyrists of the time lauded as something new in the annals of Roman warfare.* Fortune smiled upon the expedition, which, under cover of a dense fog, eluded the fleet of Allectus stationed off the Isle of Wight, and landed on the western coast. The præfect immediately burnt his galleys; and, as the adventure was crowned by success, he obtained great praise for this bold act.

Allectus had taken his station near London, in anticipation of the attack of Constantius who commanded the fleet at Boulogne, when the news reached him of the landing of Asclepiodotus. The usurper, with rash impetuosity, hastened to meet the enemy. His troops, wearied by forced marches, encountered those of Asclepiodotus with every possible disadvantage. The result was fatal to Allectus; his army was defeated with great slaughter, and he himself perished in the conflict.

The coins of Allectus are of gold and silver;

* "Ventum, quia directus non erat, captaret obliquum. Quis enim se, quamlibet iniquo mari, non auderet credere, te navigante?"—Eumenius Paneg. in Constantino Cæs. cap. xiv.

and brass, of the small size. They bear a well-executed bust with a marked character, which may be considered an accurate portrait of the usurper. The reverses are, for the chief part, similar to those on the coins of Carausius.* The most common is that with a galley filled with rowers, and the legends LAETITIA AVG., and VIRTVS AVG., the latter legend being most frequent. A ship was the favourite type for a state among the Romans: Horace uses it in his ode "*Ad Rempublicam*;" and the fathers of the Christian church appear to have regarded it as a proper emblem, since it is found on many monuments in the catacombs at Rome. The LAETITIA is an empty compliment to the self-

* Vaillant (Num. Imp. Rom. tom. iii. p. 67) says of the reverses of the coins of Allectus, "Fortasse Monetarii festinantes typo aversæ partis nummorum Carausii usi sunt:" this supposes that he had no coins struck until he had murdered Carausius. It is singular that, with few exceptions, they are of better execution than those of the first usurper, a still further proof that those who aspired to sovereign power took care to be prepared *beforehand* (see the remarks under Marius) with the most powerful persuasive both in ancient and modern times. Under any circumstances, it was the custom to lose no time in preparing money with the imperial effigy; thus we find in Tacitus (Hist. lib. ii. c. 82), that one of the first acts of Vespasian at Antioch was to strike money: "Prima belli cura agere delectus; revocare Veteranos; destinantur validæ civitates exercendis armorum officinis: *apud Antiochenses aurum argentumque signatur.*"

created emperor whose vessel soon foundered. When the VIRTVS accompanies this type, it would appear to denote that Allectus felt conscious of the advantage he possessed, in the fleet which guarded the shores of his island.

GOLD AND SILVER.

1. ADVENTVS AVG. The emperor, wearing the radiated crown, on horseback; his right hand elevated, his left holding a staff; before, a captive seated on the ground. AU.

In the cabinet of Count D'Erceville. Communicated by M. de Longperier. This coin is probably unique.

2. COMES AVG. Minerva standing, holding in her right hand a branch; in her left, a javelin and buckler. In the exergue, ML. (Hunter.) AU.
3. ORIENS AVG. The sun standing, between two captives seated on the ground; his right hand elevated, his left holding a globe. In the exergue, ML. (Mead's Catalogue, p. 13.) AU.

This coin is probably unique: the remarks on that of Carausius with the same type apply to this.

4. PAX AVG. Peace standing; her right hand holding aloft an olive-branch, her left holding the hasta transversely. In the exergue, ML. AU. and AR.

This is the least rare of the gold types. One was found in the Isle of Dogs a short time since, and purchased for the British Museum. A coin

of this type, in the cabinet of Mr. Brumell, is plated with silver.

5. Same legend. Same type, with S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. AR.
6. PROVIDENTIA AVG (or DEOR.) Providence standing. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, MSL. (Mionnet.) AR.
7. SALVS AVG. Salus standing, holding a serpent, which she feeds out of a patera. In the exergue, ML. (Haym.) AR.
8. SALVS AVG. Hygeia feeding a serpent out of a patera. In the exergue of some, ML. AU.

There is a modern forgery of this type in silver, which has been, probably, cast in a mould formed from the gold coin.

9. SPES AVG. Hope. In the exergue, MI. *or* ML. AU.
10. VIRTVS AVG. The emperor on horseback, armed with a javelin, riding over a prostrate enemy. In the exergue, . . . (In the Hunter collection.) AU.
11. VIRTVS AVG. Mars standing. In the exergue, MSL. AU.

This unique coin was purchased at the Trattle sale, for the Duke de Blacas, for £74 ! a most absurd and extravagant price.

THIRD BRASS.

1. ADVENTVS AVG. Allectus on horseback, his right hand raised, his left holding a staff. In the exergue, SPC.
2. AEQVITAS AVG. Equity standing, with her attributes. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
3. Same legend. A similar type; S. A. in the field; ML. in the exergue.

4. COMES AVG. Minerva standing.
5. DIANAE REDVCI. Diana standing.
6. FELICITAS SAECVLI. Felicity standing before an altar, holding in her hands a patera and a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
7. FIDES MILITVM. A woman standing, holding an ensign in each hand. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
8. FIDES MILITVM. A similar type; S. P. in the field; CL. in the exergue.
9. HILARITAS AVG. A woman standing, holding a branch and a cornucopia. In the field, S P. In the exergue, ML.
10. Same legend. A similar type; S. A. in the field; M. in the exergue.
11. Same legend. A similar type; S. P. in the field; C. in the exergue.
12. IOVI CONSERVATORI. Jupiter standing, holding the hasta and a thunderbolt. In the field, S. P.
13. LAETITI. . . AVG. Laetitia standing, holding in her right hand a branch or a garland, and in her left an inverted javelin. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
14. Same legend. A similar type: S. A. in the field; MSL. in the exergue.
15. LAETITIA AVG. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, CL.
16. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.
17. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
18. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, MSL.
19. Same legend. A similar type, with ML. in the exergue.
20. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, CL.
21. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.

22. Same legend. A galley with a mast, and with four rowers. In the exergue, QC.
23. Same legend. A galley, with six rowers. In the exergue, QC.
24. Same legend. A galley, without mast, and four rowers. In the exergue, QL.
25. LAETITIA AVGVSTI. A woman standing, holding in her right hand a branch or a garland, and in her left a javelin reversed. In the exergue, C.
26. MONETA AVG. Moneta standing, with her attributes. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
27. MONETA AVG. A similar type: with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. (*Or*, S. A. in the field, and MSL. in the exergue.)
28. ORIENS AVG. The sun standing; his right hand raised; his left holding a globe. In the field, S. P. (In the Hunter collection.)
29. PAX AVG. Peace standing, holding a flower in her right hand, and the hasta pura erect in her left. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
30. Same legend. A similar type; with S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. (*Or*, S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue.)
31. Same legend. Peace standing, holding in her right hand a flower, and in her left the hasta transversely. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.
32. Same legend. A similar type; with S. P. in the field, and C. in the exergue.
33. Same legend. A similar type, with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. (*Or*, S. M. in the field, and ML. in the exergue: *or*, S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue: *or*, S. A. in the field, and MSL. in the exergue.)
34. Same legend. A similar type; with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue The obverse has the bust of Allectus, with radiated crown and coat of mail, holding a javelin and a buckler: legend, IMP. ALLECTVS P. F. AVG. (In the Hunter collection.)

35. Same legend. Same type and letters. The obverse has the bust of Allectus, with radiated head and the trabea, holding a sceptre, surmounted by an eagle: legend, IMP. ALLECTVS P. F. AVG. (In the Hunter collection.)
36. PIETAS AVG. Piety, holding a cornucopia and a patera, sacrificing on an altar. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.
37. PROVID. AVG. Type of Providence. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C. The obverse of this coin reads IMP. C. ALLECTVS PIV. FEL. AVG.; radiated head to the right. (Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith.)
38. PROVID. AVG. A woman standing; in her right hand, a globe; in her left, a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C. (Or, S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue: or, S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue.)
39. PROVIDENTIA AVG. A woman standing, holding a globe in her right hand, and the hasta pura in her left. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
40. Same legend. A similar type; with S. A. in the field, and MSL. in the exergue.
41. Same legend. A woman standing, holding in her right hand a globe, and in her left the hasta pura transversely. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
42. Same legend. A woman standing, holding in her right hand a globe, and in her left a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
43. Same legend. A similar type: with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue.
44. Same legend. A similar type: with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. The obverse has the bust of Allectus with radiated head, buckler, and coat of mail, holding a javelin resting on his shoulder. (British Museum.)
45. Same legend. A woman standing, touching with a wand, which she holds in her right hand, a globe on

the ground, and holding a cornucopia in her left. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

46. Same legend. A similar type: with S. P. in the field, and CL. in the exergue.

47. ROMAE AETERN. A temple, with eight columns: within, a sedent figure. In the exergue, . . . (In the Hunter collection.)

48. SAECVLI FELICITAS. The emperor standing, holding in his right hand the hasta transversely, and in his left a globe. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.

49. SALVS AVG. Salus standing, feeding a serpent out of a patera. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.

50. Same legend. A similar type. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.

51. SALVS AVG. Salus standing before an altar, holding in her right hand a patera, and in her left the hasta pura. In the field, S. C. In the exergue, ML.

52. Same legend. Salus, feeding a serpent, rising from an altar; her left hand holding the hasta. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.

53. SPES AVG. The usual type of Hope. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.

54. Same legend. Same type: with S. A. in the field, and ML. in the exergue. (Or, S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue.)

55. SPES PVBLICA. Same type: with S. P. in the field, and ML. in the exergue.

56. Same legend. Same type: with S. P. in the field, and C. in the exergue.

57. TEMPORVM FELIC. Felicity standing, holding in her right hand a caduceus, and in her left the hasta pura. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, CL.

58. Same legend. Felicity standing, holding a long caduceus and a cornucopia. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.

59. TEMPORVM FELICIT. A similar type: S. P. in the field; C. in the exergue.

60. TEMPORVM FELICITAS. A similar type: S. A. in the field; MSL. (or CL.) in the exergue.
61. VICTORIA AVG. Victory marching, with garland and palm-branch. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML.
62. VIRTVS AVG. The emperor standing to the right, holding in the right hand a javelin; in the left, a globe. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.*
63. Same legend. Hercules standing. In the field, S. P. In the exergue, ML. (In the collection of Mr. C. R. Smith.)
64. VIRTVS AVG. Mars standing, with spear and buckler: In the field, S. P. In the exergue, C.
65. Same legend. Same type. In the field, S. A. In the exergue, ML.
66. Same legend. A galley, with a mast, and four rowers. In the exergue, QC.
67. Same legend. A galley, with a mast, and six rowers. In the exergue, QC.
68. Same legend. A similar type, with seven rowers. In the exergue, QC.
69. Same legend. A similar type, with five rowers; the emperor standing on the prow. In the exergue, QC. (In the Hunter collection.)
70. Same legend. A galley, with mast, and four rowers, on the sea. In the exergue, QL.
71. Same legend. A similar type, with five rowers.
72. Same legend. A galley, on the sea, without mast, and six rowers. In the exergue, QL.

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* Num. Chron. vol. i. p. 264.

CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS.

[A.D. 311 TO A.D. 337.]

FROM the period of the defeat and death of Allectus, to the time of the first Constantine, no Roman coins appear to have been struck in Britain, if we except those of Maximianus, which have LON. or ML. or MLXXI. in the exergue, the last two being found on the coins of Carausius; but under Constantine, coins were minted with the letters PLON. in the exergue. These letters are by most antiquaries supposed to signify *Pecunia Londinensis;* and this conjecture is supported by the existence of many coins of Constantine and his sons, with letters and numerals indicating other places of mintage, such as Sirmium, Treves, Lugdunum, Arles, Siscia, Aquileia, Rome, and Alexandria. Many of them, supposed to have been struck at Lugdunum, have merely the letter L. to indicate the place of mintage. These are found in immense numbers on the Continent; and on that account are not assigned to the London mint, while those with PLON. are of rather unusual occurrence, and are, without doubt, the produce of the British Colony, being more frequently discovered in

England, than in other countries once forming part of the Roman dominions.*

It is somewhat singular that no gold or silver coins of Constantine and his sons bear the letters of the London mint. All the coins of these princes having PLON. in the exergue, are of small brass, and, as I believe, confined to particular types, which are here described:—

I.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS AVG. *Constantinus Augustus.* Helmeted bust of Constantine with coat of mail.

Reverse. BEATA TRANQVILLITAS.† A quadrangular altar supporting a globe, over which are three stars: on the front of the altar VOTIS XX: in the exergue, PLON.

II.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS AVG. *Constantinus Augustus.* Laureated bust of Constantine with coat of mail: in the right hand a sceptre surmounted with an eagle.

Reverse. BEAT. TRANQLITAS. Altar, &c. as on No. I. In the exergue, PLON. (Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith.)

These types are extremely common, with other

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* Jobert, desirous of giving these coins to Lugdunum (Lyons) reads the PLON. "*Percussa Lugduni in officina nona;*" but Bimard assigns them to the London mint. "Science des Médailles," tom. ii. p. 104. edit. 1739.

† This legend is very frequently blundered or contracted: thus—TRANQLITAS—TRANQVILITAS, and sometimes RANQLITAS.

letters in the exergue.* These coins must have been minted in prodigious numbers in many parts of the empire, and were evidently issued in commemoration of that profound tranquillity which then reigned throughout the Roman dominions. Father Harduin has been ridiculed for seeing, in the three stars, a symbolic compliment to the three emperors; but it is certainly a more rational conjecture than many others in which that antiquary indulged. Pindar† tells us, that Tranquillity was the daughter of Justice, who caused towns to flourish and become great; and Claudian, in his panegyric, styles Antoninus Pius "*Tranquillum Pium*," and contrasts him with the war-loving Severus. Coins of the younger Constantine have the same reverse, with a galeated, laureated, or crowned bust on the obverse, as have also the coins of Crispus.

III.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS AVG. Laureated bust of Constantine.

Reverse. SARMATIA DEVICTA. Victory with a trophy in her right hand, and a palm-branch in her left, trampling on a captive seated on the ground before her: in the exergue, PLON. and a crescent.

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* It should be mentioned that the coins of this period, in all the metals, very frequently have letters in the field, the signification of which is extremely doubtful.

† Pyth. carm. viii.

This type is also of very frequent occurrence with other letters in the exergue. It commemorates the victory obtained by Constantine over the Sauromatæ who dwelt near the Palus Mæotis. The emperor having heard that these people had passed the Ister in boats, and pillaged his territories, immediately marched against them. The Sauromatæ were led by their king, Rausimodus. Zosimus* tells us that the barbarians attacked a town, the walls of which were topped with wood only, which they fired, and then assaulted on all sides: but the besieged made a brave resistance; and in the height of the combat Constantine arrived, and victory decided in favour of the Roman army. Many were slain, and great numbers were made prisoners. Rausimodus saved the remainder of his army by flight, and, crossing the Ister, entered the Roman dominions: but the victor was at his heels, and again gave battle to him in a thick wood on the summit of a hill. The Romans were once more victorious, the king of the Sauromatæ was left dead on the field, and great numbers of his followers were made captives.

IV.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS P. F. AVG. *Constantinus Pius Felix Augustus.* Laureated bust of Constantine with coat of mail.

* Lib. ii.

Reverse. SOLI INVICTO COMITI. The sun wearing the pallium, standing: his right hand elevated, his left holding a globe; in the exergue, MLON. (*Moneta Londinensis*).

The same type is extremely common with other letters in the exergue; and the first two of these three reverses, with the same letters in the exergue, occur on the coins of Crispus and the younger Constantine. The coin here described, must have been struck previously to the year of Rome 1064 (A.D. 311), when Constantine "embraced Christianity."* The deity on the reverse was a favourite one with his heathen predecessors.

V.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS AVG. *Constantinus Augustus.* Helmeted bust of Constantine to the right.

Reverse. VIRTVS EXERCIT. *Virtus Exercitum.* Two captives, their hands bound behind their backs, seated on the ground; between them a labarum inscribed VOT. XX.: in the exergue, PLON.

VI.

Obverse. CONSTANTINVS AVG. *Constantinus Augustus.* Laureated head of Constantine to the right.

* I trust to be forgiven for copying the words of the historian, in speaking of Constantine's abandonment of the gods of his forefathers. To suppose, however, that he "embraced Christianity," is an insult to its meek Founder. He ascended the throne, reeking with the slaughter of friends whom his ambition had converted into enemies; and he quitted for ever the "eternal city" after the murders of his wife and son, with the odious appellative of a "second Nero." Great as were the abilities of Constantine, it required not the prejudice of Zosimus to render his name hateful to humanity.

Reverse. PROVIDENTIAE AVGG. *Providentiæ Augustorum.* The gate of a camp; above, a star. In the exergue, PLON. (Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith.)

To those who are practically acquainted with Roman coins, it is scarcely necessary to add that there is no coin of Constantine struck at London and commemorating his baptism. Those who would learn on what authority such an absurd story has been built, are referred to a notice in the Numismatic Journal.*

FAUSTA.

[A.D. 307 TO A.D. 326.]

THE coins of this empress, the daughter of Maximianus Hercules, and wife of Constantine the Great, are common in small brass, except those which bear the letters PLON. in the exergue, which are of considerable rarity. The following coin is in the cabinet of Mr. Brumell:—

Obverse. FLAV. MAX. FAVSTA AVG. *Flavia Maxima Fausta Augusta.* Bust of the empress to the right.

Reverse. SALVS REIPVBLICAE. *Safety of the Republic.* A woman standing, holding a child on each arm: in the exergue, PLON.

* Vol. i. p. 260.

This type, though doubtless intended as a compliment to the empress, is not of very easy interpretation. Do the two children represent the princes to whom Fausta had given birth, or are they typical of the Roman people? The numismatist will remember the coins of Julia Domna, on which she is styled "*Mater Senatus*," and "*Mater Castrorum*," and the denarii of Plautilla which bear the proud boast "*Propago Imperi.*"

Fausta was married to Constantine in the year 307; and by his order suffocated in a warm bath A.D. 326. Some assert that she was not guilty of the crime for which she suffered.

CRISPUS.

[A.D. 317 TO A.D. 326.]

THE coins of this prince, struck, as is generally supposed, in the London mint, are as follow:—

I.

Obverse. FL. IVL. CRISPVS NOB. CAES. *Flavius Julius Crispus Nobilissimus Cæsar.* Laureated bust of Crispus with the paludamentum.

Reverse. PROVIDENTIA CAESS. *Providentia Cæsarum.* The gate of a camp; above, a star:* in the exergue, PLON. (*Pecunia Londinensis*).

* This object is palpably imitated on a penny of the Anglo-Saxon King Edweard the First. See Ruding, plate 16, No. 21.

The same type is found on the coins of the younger Constantine.

II.

Obverse. IVL. CRISPVS NOB. C. *Julius Crispus Nobilissimus Cæsar.* Laureated head of Crispus.

Reverse. VOT. X. (*Votis decem*), within a garland, around which are the words CAESARVM NOSTRORVM: in the exergue, PLON. (*Pecunia Londinensis*), and a crescent.

III.

Obverse. CRISPVS NOBIL. C. *Crispus Nobilissimus Cæsar.* Laureated head of Crispus; bust in armour, with shield and javelin in front.

Reverse. BEAT. TRANQLITAS. An altar, surmounted by a globe, inscribed VOTIS XX. In the exergue, PLON.

IV.

Obverse. As No. III. Helmeted head; bust in armour; on the left arm a shield; in the right hand a javelin resting on the shoulder.

Reverse. BEATA TRANQVILLITAS. An altar, as No. III. In the field, P. A. In the exergue, PLON.

The last two coins are in the collection of Mr. C. R. Smith.

CONSTANTINUS JUNIOR.

[A. D. 317 TO A. D. 340.]

THE coins of this prince resemble those of his father and brother; but many of them bear a portrait by no means resembling that of the elder Constantine. The reader will scarcely

require to be reminded that this prince was the legitimate son of Constantine, by his wife Fausta, and that Crispus was also his son, but by a concubine named Minervina. Crispus was put to death by command of his father, upon a charge of having attempted the chastity of the empress Fausta, who was subsequently detected in an amour with a slave. The portraits on the coins of this prince, are invariably like those of his father; but those of the younger Constantine have frequently a totally different character, a fact for which I am unable to account.

The types of the small brass coins of this prince, with the initials of the London mint, resemble, in every respect, those of his brother Crispus.

CONSTANTIUS JUNIOR.

[A.D. 323 TO A.D. 361.]

I.

Obverse. FL. IVL. CONSTANTIVS NOB. C. The laureated head of the Cæsar to the left; front bust with an embroidered paludamentum over the tunic.

Reverse. PROVIDENTIAE CAESS. The gate of a camp surmounted by a star. In the exergue, PLON.

II.

Obverse. FLA. CONSTANTIVS NOB. C. Laureated head; bust, with paludamentum over the tunic, to the right.

Reverse. As No. I. In exergue, PLON.

These two coins are the only specimens yet recorded of the younger Constantius, as belonging to the London mint. They are in the cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith, and were communicated by him to the Numismatic Society.*

HELENA.

THERE were three ladies of this name connected with the family of Constantine; namely, the mother of that emperor, the wife (as is supposed) of Crispus, and the consort of Julian, surnamed the Apostate. Their coins are not easily distinguished, but the small brass example here described, and which is exceedingly common with other letters in the exergue, is supposed by Eckhel† to bear the effigy of Helena Juliani. Helena, the daughter of Constantine by Fausta, was married to Julian when that prince was declared Cæsar (A.D. 355). She died a short time after her husband's accession to the empire.

Obverse. FL. HELENA AVGVSTA. Bust of Helen.

* Num. Chron. vol. i. p. 217.

† Doct. Num. Vet. vol. viii. p. 145.

Reverse. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. A woman standing, holding in her right hand an olive-branch. In the exergue, PLON.

This piece occurs in the list of Roman coins found in the bed of the Thames, communicated by Mr. C. R. Smith to the Numismatic Society.*

MAGNUS MAXIMUS.

This usurper was a Spaniard by birth, and general of the legions in Britain, in the reign of the emperor Gratianus. He revolted, and entered Gaul at the head of a powerful army, A.D. 383. Theodosius defeated and caused him to be beheaded at Aquileia, A.D. 388. All his coins bear exergual letters of the continental mints only. The same may be said of Constantinus, a private soldier, proclaimed emperor by the legions of Britain in the days of Honorius, A.D. 411.

After this period, the minting of Roman coins appears to have been confined to the capital, and

* Numismatic Chronicle, vol. iv. p. 191.

the various cities of the Continent. I know of no Roman coin, subsequent to the reign of the younger Constantius, which has any indication of its having been struck in Britain; and it has been shewn that the Romans ceased to commemorate, on their coins, their deeds in this island after the reigns of Geta and Caracalla. Coins of the elder Constantine have reference to France and Germany; but none are known with any other allusion to Britain than the exergual letters, PLON.

On reviewing the types of the Roman coins commemorating events in Britain, the antiquary is compelled to confess that they afford but little information respecting the manners and habits of our savage ancestors. It is somewhat remarkable that while Spain, Egypt, Parthia, Mauritania, and other provinces, are characterised on Roman coins by their peculiar attributes, those which refer to Britain merely denote her insular situation, or that the sea washed her shores. On the money of Antoninus Pius, Parthia is distinguished by the quiver of arrows, Africa by the proboscis of the elephant, Cappadocia by Mount Argæus, and Spain by her rabbit, &c.; but it would appear, that the artists of the Roman mint took but little pains to

obtain further information than that the shores of Britain were defended by rocks, and that the province was surrounded by the sea. Did the senate consider that the representation of a naked and ill-armed barbarian, would convey but a mean idea of the power of the Roman arms, and therefore forbid a more characteristic representation of Britain?

Postscript.

In the introduction to this volume, the Britons are described as being an easy prey to the new invaders upon the decay of the Roman power. This admits of some qualification. M. Guizot, in his admirable "Essais sur l'Histoire de France," observes that the Britons have unjustly been accused of effeminacy for their letter to Aetius,* imploring assistance from Rome; that while Spain, Gaul, and Italy fell without a struggle, Britain alone, less civilised, less Roman than the other provinces, withstood for a time the barbarian inroad; and the fact of their resistance is on record.

* Beda, Hist. Eccles. ii. c.13.

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ERRATA.

The large brass coin of Caracalla (No. 31) is a variety of that described at page 63. It is in the collection of the British Museum.
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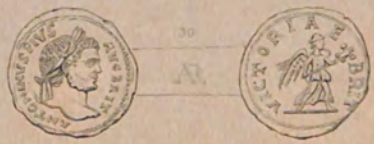

APPARATUS FOR CASTING ROMAN COINS

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